FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 JANUARY 1984

Jordan

New Cabinet — A new Cabinet was formed by a decree issued by King Husayn and broadcast by Amman television. Former Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat was appointed prime minister and defense minister, while Sulaymar 'Arar was named deputy prime minister and interior minister and Tahir Nash'at al-Masri minister of foreign affairs. The new Cabinet was sworn in on 10 January, according to the television. In a message charging 'Ubaydat with forming the new Cabinet, carried textually by Amman television, the king reiterated the need for "responsible dialogue"with the PLO and said contacts would continue. In a subsequent interview with *SAWT ASH-SHA'B*, 'Ubaydat announced that, contrary to earlier reports, the new Parliament will open its first ordinary session with a speech by Husayn on 16 January.

King's Health — King Husayn was hospitalized on 9 January for treatment of a bleeding ulcer, according to the king's physician cited by Amman television, which added that his condition is "satisfactory and stable." According to *AD-DUSTUR*, Husayn will head the Jordanian delegation to the Islamic summit conference in Morocco "early next week" and expects to meet with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and other leaders in Casablanca.

PLO Affairs

The Fatah Revolutionary Council met in Tunis and discussed preparations for the Fatah General Congress, scheduled for 29 January, as well as a number of organizational issues including the "secessionist movement," Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported. A Palestinian source cited by QNA said the council unanimously supported the Fatah Central Committee's decision to expel nine dissidents and elected PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir as its assistant secretary general to replace Khalid al-'Amlah, one of the dissident leaders.

San'a' Voice of Palestine radio announced that Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat agreed to hold the PNC session in Algiers next month. A Palestinian source in Rabat disclosed that 'Arafat will attend the Islamic summit conference in Casablanca where the PLO will submit an "important" memorandum, according to KUNA. Citing Kuwait's *AL-WATAN*, MENA reported that 'Arafat will visit Jordan after the summit. Khalil al-Wazir will visit Jordan "within the next few days," according to *AD-DUSTUR*.

In Damascus Libya's Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud held talks with Fatah dissidents and other Palestinian leaders, including PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum, Tripoli radio noted. Meanwhile, PFLP Secretary General George Habash announced that his organization's Central Committee is holding an extraordinary session to discuss "serious developments" in the Palestinian arena and will issue a statement announcing "very important decisions," Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Lebanon

Political Developments — During their meeting in Riyadh Foreign Minister Elie Salim, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal discussed "Syria's attempt to link" the National Dialogue Conference with the 17 May Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which they agreed to continue discussing in Casablanca on 16 January, according to an informed source cited by Beirut radio. The ministers also discussed the security plan, the radio stated, adding that intensive contacts would be held 10 and 11 January to agree on its declaration and implementation.

Meanwhile, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt chaired a meeting of the National Salvation Front in Damascus which discussed political and security developments in Lebanon, Damascus radio reported. The meeting declared that "the logic of Phalangist hegemony" over the Lebanese Government can be "completely and comprehensively removed" by canceling the 17 May agreement and all decrees, laws, appointments, and structures that "affirmed the Phalangist hegemony." The meeting held the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army responsible for the "failure to achieve the security plan" and reconvene the National Dialogue Conference.

In another development, a responsible security source in the Nasirite Al-Murabitun movement cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio claimed that Lebanese Government forces have launched a campaign of "arrests and terror" against Palestinians in the Sabra area. The source warned that Al-Murabitun "will find itself compelled to place every struggler of Al-Murabitun at his natural post alongside our people and Palestinian kinfolk living in Beirut."

Security Situation — Two RPG's were fired at the French Embassy from a nearby building and unidentified gunmen exchanged fire with troops manning a French position in Beirut, Beirut radio stated while reporting only material damage in the two attacks. Elsewhere in the country, there were exchanges of fire in the Khaldah region, according to Beirut radio, while Jerusalem radio reported that an Israeli soldier was slightly wounded when a bomb exploded near an IDF convoy south of the Az-Zahrani River.

Libya-Tunisia

JANA reported the outbreak of a fire along the Algerian-Tunisian oil pipeline inside Tunisian territory but did not mention Tunisian allegations of a bombing by Libyan-based saboteurs.

Iran

The clandestine radios Free Voice of Iran and Radio Iran reported antigovernment demonstrations in Tehran in favor of restoring a constitutional monarchy. Official Iranian media have not been observed to report any such demonstrations.

Afghanistan

Over 100 Soviet and Afghan Government troops died in recent heavy fighting with rebels around Qandahar, according to Western diplomatic sources cited by AFP.

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Fatah Movement Continues Tunis Meetings

Jan 9, 10 Meetings

LD101841 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Fatah movement Revolutionary Council today continued its meetings in the Tunisian capital under the chairmanship of brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, commander in chief of the forces of the Palestine revolution.

The Council opened its meetings yesterday evening upon the return of Brother Abu 'Ammar from a visit to Algeria yesterday during which he conferred with president Chadli Bendjedid. In this visit Abu 'Ammar was accompanied by Brother Abu Jihad, [Khalil al-Wazir] member of the Fatah movement Central Committee, deputy commander-in-chief of the forces of the Palestine revolution.

The Fatah movement Revolutionary Council discussed a number of topics, including paving the way for the convening of the movement's congress scheduled for the 29th of this month, in addition to the situation on the Palestinian and the Arab arenas, as well as a number of organizational issues the most important of which is the secessionist movement carried out by a number of members of the Council in backing the plan for plotting against the independent national Palestinian decisionmaking.

Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah movement Central Committee, said that most of the 54 members of the Revolutionary Council have been meeting since yesterday in Tunis for the purpose of studying the general situation of the PLO.

Details of 9 Jan Meeting

GF101922 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, 10 Jan (QNA) — The Fatah Revolutionary Council has unanimously supported the decision of the Central Committee to expel nine dissidents and also supported all measures taken against them.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Tunis, a Palestinian source stated that the Council elected Intisar al-Wazir, alias Umm Jihad, as assistant secretary general for the Revolutionary Council to succeed 'Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, who is one of the dissident leaders.

The source added that during its first session last night which continued until 0600 Doha local time, the Revolutionary Council listened to a 4-hour report from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. In this report, 'Arafat reviewed all the developments in the Palestinian revolution and gave a detailed explanation on the revolution's stand toward what is going on, particularly in confronting challenges created by the dissension and the events in northern Lebanon and Tripoli.

The Palestinian source said that Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, talked about Fatah's political and military situation, while Faruq Qaddumi, Fatah's secretary general presented a report on the Central Committee's meetings, decisions, and political statement.

Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, also talked about the political dimensions of some of the developments on the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, alias Abu al-Hawl, member of the Central Committee, reviewed in his report the military and organizational situation of the movement from the departure from Beirut until the departure from Tripoli.

The source explained that a discussion was held on a number of the topics which were contained in these reports. A political atmosphere dominated the session, which was attended by 46 of the 63 Council members. The absence of some members was made upon request from the leadership because of the importance of the missions they are currently undertaking.

The Council will resume its meetings tonight and discussion will center on organizational matters and preparation of the agenda of the Fatah general congress, which is scheduled to convene in Tunis on 25 January.

Further Details of 'Arafat 9 Jan Algiers Visit

JN101749 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar has ended his visit to fraternal Algeria. After meeting with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Abu 'Ammar met with the strugglers of our revolution —those who had been detained in the Ansar Camp and the Zionist enemy's prisons and who were liberated in wake of the battles of steadfastness and challenge in Tripoli at the end of last year.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar was warmly welcomed by the strugglers. They expressed support for the revolution and its leader, and denounced the Syrian and Libyan conspiracy and all the conspiracies seeking to harm Palestinian legitimacy and Palestinian independent decisionmaking. Brother Abu 'Ammar was accompanied on his visit to the heroes of the Palestinian revolution by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Baghdad PLO Radio Analyzes Palestinian Dialogue

JN100813 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1626 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The dialogue that is currently being held in Tunis within several legitimate frameworks of the Palestinian revolution aims at discussing, analyzing, and outlining the details of a program for future Palestinian militant action. This dialogue is proceeding on two axes: First, the need to accurately define the nature and major characterisitics of the coming stage and, consequently, to define its strategic missions. Second, the situation inside the Palestinian arena, its developments, and how things should pro-

ceed in this arena under the slogan raised in the annual address given by Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar, who said that this year is the year of revolutionary decision, free will, and independent decisionmaking.

Hence, a discussion is now taking place in order to find an answer to the question raised in the Fatah Central Committee statement: What after Tripoli? The discussion is also dealing with all of the details that will determine the program of Palestinian miltiant action in the coming stage and on all levels. Before we continue to explain the nature and meaning of the aforementioned two axes of responsible Palestinian dialogue now taking place in Tunis, we need to stress the following: The dialogues of the legitimate Palestinian frameworks in Tunis are characterized by a feeling of high national responsibility and confidence that all of the difficulties can be surmounted and all barriers challenged. These dialogues are also characterized by a qualitative development in Palestinian political ideology. The Fatah Central Committee's statement clearly reflected this development. Hence, all the current dialogues confirm the vitality and soundness of the Palestinian political body as well as its ability to continue its influential activity. This in turn reiterates that the Palestinian figure is still the most difficult in the equation of the historical struggle.

Now, we have to explain the nature and meaning of the two axes within which the responsible Palestinian dialogue is advancing in Tunis. The first axis has a reciprocal nature and depends on an objective study of the current dominating political facts and their interaction. The reciprocal nature of this axis will help form a clear picture of the coming stage in order to define its strategic missions. This means that the Palestinian dialogue should continue to proceed on this axis. Actually, progress on this axis is part of the primary mission entrusted to the legitimate Palestinian frameworks and the Palestinian vanguard leading these frameworks in performing Palestinian nationalist action.

The post-Tripoli stage will move Palestinian militant action toward new dimensions, which are absolutely not isolated from the preceding ones. We need to carefully observe here that we are approaching a creative development in Palestinian militant action. We are not trying to present new methods for this action.

We now return to the Fatah Central Committee statement, which further confirms the new dimensions of Palestinian action. The statement clearly aserts that we are facing a stage that requires a quantitative and qualitative escalation of the armed struggle against the Zionist enemy inside the occupied homeland and in southern Lebanon. Furthermore, the statement confirms that the future political action is clearly identified. This means that the Palestinian vanguard has accurately controlled the central link of struggle in the coming stage. Consequently, this vanguard will develop methods for Palestinian struggle and will neither invent new methods nor abandon other strategic and fundemental methods in our national struggle. This is in addition to strengthening revolutionary methods and traditions in our militant action, foremost of which is democracy, whose practical and historical significance has been strongly confirmed in the Fatah Central Committee statement. No other liberation revolution in the world has ever witnessed a more constructive and sincere criticism of the revolution's leader for an organizational violation. This criticism stemmed from a frank democratic dialogue about a political move that has been viewed acutely and has been clearly assessed within the framework of serving our people's national objectives. From the first axis, we realize that the Palestinian vanguard and its dialogues are proceeding on the correct course.

As for the second axis, which is related to the situation inside the Palestinian arena, it is also being discussed under the slogan of revolutionary decision, free will, and independent decisionmaking. This axis is also very significant because we depend on it in our reconstruction of and identification with national unity, which must be based on an allegiance to Palestine and nothing else.

It is the year of revolutionary decision, free will, and independent decisionmaking. This year will witness a revolutionary selectivity in the Palestinian arena. National unity is no longer a kind of equation or a balance to please this or that Arab side. The national unity is no longer used as a sword to threaten the political vitality of the Palestinian vanguard, particularly since national unity was raised in glittering revolutionary slogans that were proven during the Tripoli stage as opportunist slogans raised to serve objectives other than national unity.

The second axis contains an influential and realistic development of the understanding of national unity. We can even say that we are about to purify this understanding of all the various ideological, political, and organziational impurities so we can achieve the aspired national unity.

But all this is not enough proof that we are proceeding on a sound course. As we move forward, we leave the plotters, traitors, and agents in Damascus [words indistinct] away from the march of our people, so they may face their inevitable fate: a certain and black destiny.

San'a' VOP Reports PNC To Convene in Algiers in Feb

GF101647 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpt] It has become certain that the PNC will convene in Algiers next month. This approval was made during the meeting which was held between brother leader Abu 'Ammar with his brother Algerian leader Chadli Bedjedid yesterday.

'Arafat, PLO Delegation To Attend Islamic Conference

LD101222 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1151 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 10 Jan (KUNA) — A Moroccan Government source has affirmed that King Hassan II has left Rabat for Casablanca, where all preparations for the Islamic summit conference have been completed. The source affirmed, however, that the Islamic foreign ministers' conference will be held in Rabat. A high-ranking Palestinian source told KUNA in Rabat that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will attend the Islamic summit conference and that the PLO has already prepared a note, which the source described as important, for submission to the conference.

The KUNA correspondent in Rabat has learned that the PLO delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers' conference will consist of Faruq Qaddumi alias Abu Al-Lutf, and Khalid Al-Hasan alias Abu as-Sa'id. It is not known if other figures from the Palestinian organizations will attend the summit conference.

The same source told KUNA that these other quarters have not yet defined their positions. But political circles believe they will not be represented because they boycotted the PLO Executive Committee meeting held recently in Tunisia.

Husayn, 'Arafat Summit Coordination

JN110734 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — It has been reported in Amman that Jordanian King Husayn will meet with Yasir 'Arafat during the Islamic summit conference in Casablanca to coordinate their stands during this conference. News agencies said that King Husayn is cooperating with the Egyptian regime in order to obtain a mandate to negotiate with Israel on behalf of the Palestinian Arab people in accordance with the Reagan plan, which calls for direct negotiations between Husayn and the Zionist enemy.

Libya's Jallud Meets With Palestinian Leaders

JN110737 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Jamahiriyah, yesterday met with Khalid al-Fahum, PNC speaker; and Colonel Sa'id Musa, Nimr Salih, and Samih Abu Kuwayk, members of the leadership of the revolutionary upheaval in the Fatah movement. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary of the Palestinian organziation in the Ba'th Party; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman of the PLO; Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; and several leading members of the Lebanese National Salvation Front. The discussion during this meeting dealt with the future of the Palestine question in light of recent developments in the Palestinian arena. Later, Col Musa made a statement in which he said that the discussion dealt with the current conflict in the Palestinian arena. He added that the position of the Libyan Jamahiriyah on various national issues and the conflict in the Arab homeland is clear. He affirmed that Libya supports the continuation of the struggle against the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism, which is now present in Lebanon. Libya also supports the nationalist line in the Palestinian arena, he concluded.

Musa on American Forces

NC102215 Paris AFP in English 2105 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus, Jan 10 (AFP) — Libyan number two 'Abd as-Salam Jallud met here today with several Palestinian leaders, including those of two organizations opposed to Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Palestinian sources said. Palestinian National Council Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and PLO Executive Committee spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, as well as Abu Musa and Abu Salih, both dissidents from Mr 'Arafat's Fatah group, attended the meeting. Also present were Ahmad Jibril, leader of the pro-Libyan Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command and Samir Ghushah, head of the pro-Syrian Palestine Liberation Front. Colonel Musa said the topic of discussion was "the Palestinian situation, the revival of the battle in southern Lebanon against Israel, and the coordination of the National Salvation Front (of the Lebanese opposition)."

He said Libya "backed the continuation of the armed struggle against the Israeli enemy and American forces in Lebanon."

WAFA, FRG TV Interview Fatah Dissident Musa

JN110732 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — Colonel Sa'id Musa, one of the leaders of the upheaval inside the Fatah movement, has asserted that the Palestinian revolution will continue its armed struggle until the liberation of the occupied homeland. In an exclusive interview with the Palestinian News Agency WAFA and the FRG television network, Col Musa said that the upheaval will continue to cooperate with the Lebanese nationalist forces in order to end the legitimacy of 'Arafat's leadership of the PLO.

Regarding the recent Tripoli incidents, the Palestinian leader explained that 'Arafat fabricated the Tripoli battle in order to create for himself the right opportunity to go to Camp David and finally join the U.S. plans. His visit to the Egyptian regime is best proof of this, he said.

Col Musa said that the upheaval will pursue a new method of struggle based on revolutionary reorganization inside the occupied Arab territories to ensure the ability to continue the struggle.

Col Musa also said: We had tried since the beginning of the upheaval to find a political solution to the crisis, but after his visit to Cairo, we feel that 'Arafat is finished politically and henceforth has no place in the Palestinian revolution.

Musa Says Forces Will Remain in Lebanon

NC111045 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 10 Jan 84 pp 1,9

[Text] Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], a leader of the opposition in the Fatah movement, yesterday declared that his forces will not leave Lebanon and will continue fighting against Israel. He called for following the footsteps of the Lebanese national resistance. He again accused PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat of "deviation and treason."

Abu Musa was speaking at a ceremony held in Nahr al-Barid Camp marking the anniversary of the Palestinian revolution and Martyr's Day. The ceremony was attended by representatives of the resistance and the national parties and by a large crowd from the camp.

The ceremony started with the Lebanese and the Palestinian national anthemns and a 1-minute silence in tribute to the martyrs. Muhammad Khattar then delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian resistance denouncing 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, which he regarded as a departure from PNC resolutions and as a readiness to enter into a U.S. settlement.

He was followed by Abu Musa, who attacked 'Arafat and accused him of seeking to "disarm and disperse the revolution, keeping it far from the real arena of struggle and keeping the fighters in exile." He reproached 'Arafat for "not effecting the steadfastness in Beirut, for welcoming the U.S. guarantees, and for going to Fes instead of going to the battlefront."

Abu Musa denounced 'Arafat's meetings with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn and said: "Our people will not forget the 25,000 Palestinians who were slaughtered by the Jordanian regime."

He said: "In the wake of the departure from Beirut we were supposed to turn all our efforts toward the fighters' return to the real battlefield. However, the deviationist command alleged that the United States controlled the area, that Israel cannot be defeated, and that the Lebanese national movement was finished so as to justify the rightist defeatist course and the recognition of Israel. The United States cannot dominate our nation and our will is stronger than the United States. The war in the mountain is led by the National Salvation Front, the Lebanese national resistance is inflicting defeats against the Israeli enemy, and the resistance front militias are fighting the U.S. army. The Fatah movement's upsurge is a true reflection of our people's invincible will."

Abu Musa added: They say that the Arab situation is bad and that the international situation is not in our favor. This is correct. However, in 1965 the Arab situation was even worse but the revolution broke out and there was the Al-Karamah battle and the fighting against Israel. The only means for achieving victories is the gun, following the footsteps of the national resistance, which forces the Israeli enemy to retreat. We will not give up our presence in Lebanon because we seek to fight Israel. We will not exclude the gun from the area of conflict and we refuse to leave under the Red Cross flag, which 'Arafat had chosen.

'Arafat Reportedly Knew of Jordanian Moves

JN110822 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0744 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Jan (INA) — The Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS* quotes former Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah as saying that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, had been fully informed for a long time of the Jordanian measures concerning the return of parliamentary life. The Jordanian minister told the paper that the PLO knows that the Jordanian measures do not impinge on its legitimacy.

Abu 'Awdah called on the PLO to find a formula for action and to agree on it with Jordan, noting that his country will continue to work for the Palestinian people and their inalienable rights, especially their right to self-determination.

PLO Official on Cairo Visit, PNC Resolutions

JN111045 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 Jan 84 pp 1, 21

[Excerpts] PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad has said that the dispute over the visit of Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution's forces, to Cairo and his meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak must not outweigh the events that preceded this visit. These events are the attempts by the Syrian and Libyan regimes to liquidate the Palestinian resistance in northern Lebanon, destroy the Palestinian legitimacy, fragment the PLO, and impose hegemony over independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

In an exclusive statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Ahmad who arrived in Amman yesterday said: I do not believe that 'Arafat's visit to Cairo is a violation of the PNC resolutions as long as this visit has not resulted in political agreements between the PLO and the Egyptian leadership.

Ahmad added: In light of the information available and 'Arafat's explanation of his visit to Cairo, I believe and I am sure that Brother Abu 'Ammar and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak did not discuss any political agreement during the visit which came as a reply to the stand of the Libyan and Syrian regimes and their attempts to liquidate the Palestinian legitimacy.

Ahmad added: While in Cairo, Brother Abu 'Ammar confirmed his stand rejecting the Camp David accords and drew attention to the Palestinian stand rejecting the Reagan plan, the so-called autonomy, and the alternative homeland. He said: These are the taboos that the Palestinian people are struggling to foil.

Regarding the restoration of constitutional life in Jordan, Ahmad said: This is an internal Jordanian affair that concerns only Jordan. We understand the constitutional aspects of this matter.

Concerning the PLO Executive Committee's opinion on restoration of parliamentary life to Jordan, Ahmad said: The PLO Executive Committee did not discuss this issue, but Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke about it and showed understanding of the constitutional considerations that necessitated Jordan taking these measures.

Islamic States Urge Iran to Attend January Summit

LD101204 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1137 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 10 Jan (KUNA) — KUNA's correspondent has learned that a number of Islamic countries are to exert diplomatic efforts urging Iran to take part in the fourth Islamic summit conference scheduled for 16-17 January in Casablanca. Republic diplomatic sources have told KUNA's correspondent that Libya is trying to convince Iran to participate so that a draft resolution can be agreed by the summit regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Morocco has invited Iran to attend the summit through diplomatic channels. It is known that relations between Morocco and

Iran have not been broken, but the level of representation between the two countries is weak. On the other hand, the source confirmed to KUNA's correspondent that the Islamic good-offices mission is to be reconvened and that a new committee could be formed during the summit. It is known that the Iraqi-Iranian war is one of the most important points on the agenda of the summit.

Egyptian Media To Cover Casablanca Summit
LD101634 Kuwait KUNA in English 1351 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 10 Jan (KUNA) — KUNA correspondent has learned that an Egyptian information delegation arrived in Morocco today to cover the fourth Islamic summit conference to be held in Casablanca 16-18 January. KUNA has learned that the delegation will include representatives of official Egyptian information media, including the radio and television services.

Egypt's participation in the summit will be one of the most important topics to be discussed by the foreign ministers of Islamic countries in Rabat on 12 January.

Palestinians Blow Up Water Pipe in Galilee
GF101749 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The Palestinian fedayeen who are operating inside the occupied homeland blew up the main pipe which transfers water to a collection point in Nahal Hakar in upper Galilee. The Zionist radio today admitted the operation and said that an explosive composed of a shell hidden in a tire destroyed the pipe.

WAFA Text of 'Arafat New Year Address
NC091305 Nicosia WAFA in English undated

[Text] Tunis, Jan. 1st (WAFA) — On the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the outset of the Palestinian revolution, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat delivered an address in which he described the new year, 1984, as the year of revolutionary decisiveness, revolutionary will, and the year of the Palestinian independent decisionmaking.

The full text of the chairman's address is:

To you our faithful, truthful masses inside and outside our occupied homeland,

To you our people,

To every child ... to every woman in our homeland,

To every man on our dear land,

To you comrades in arms of our long march...

Words are meaningless in front of the self-denial, abnegation, devotion and truthfulness of our people... At the most crucial of times, these glorious masses avail themselves to form this legendary protection and revolutionary warmth wholeheartedly and truthfully, in total abnegation and greatness to reveal the true dimension of our people and of our masses. And as the Holy Koran says: "Among them is a colossal nation..."

In many of the nations and particularly in our Third World, the leaderships act as important elements in the path and glory of the people.

But the fundamental principle of our people is that the people are stronger than any leadership and with greater steadfastness than all the past and present leaders and will remain so with their future leaders.

The violent confrontations our people have led have proved their profound authenticity despite the enormous dimension of the events. Thus have you always been, my beloved people, great in your confrontation, great in your revolution, great in your challenges and self denial... you who have made the legendary epics possible, great in your children, your men, unwavering in your greatness, rooted like trees with your branches reaching the skies...

To all of you my people, inside and outside our occupied homeland, in the West Bank and Gaza, in Galilee and in Negev, in the camps of steadfastness in Al-Yarmuq, Al-Barid, Al-Baddawi, in Beirut, in Lebanon, in all our camps in Syria and in Jordan,.. I salute you all, a salute of high appreciation and deep gratitude... Beloved brothers, beloved masses, to all of you heroes in every trench and behind every barricade...

19 years have passed in the age of our revolution, the revolution of the 1st of January 1965, the revolution of the free determination and will and of the independant decision — making... the revolution of the achievement of the impossible towards Palestine, the revolution of the free men on the road to freedom ....

This year that has elapsed has carried with it crucial challenges, connivances and conspiracies which have reached bloody stages endangering our whole march, this in an attempt to hit the heart..... and kill..

This past year has seen the might of real men, their deep convictions and authenticity in their confrontation of the conspiracy and of its implications, in their confrontation of the American-Zionist plan of annihilation of this revolution and of the Palestinian objectives and hopes and in which Arab parties got involved attempt to bring to success this diabolical plan which aimed at breaking the Palestinian legitimacy and at subjugating its decision-making, in order to use it as a trump-card on the table of cheap bargains.

The conspiracy operated in the beginning under the treacherous Palestinian cover of the dissidents in our Fatah movement only to reveal its true and dangerous implications by extending to reach the Palestine Liberation Organization and attempts to infiltrate the ranks of our masses.

When our Palestinian and Arab masses rejected the role assigned to them, the Arab parties, Syria and Libya, revealed themselves

as the main actors of this agression to pursue the role assigned to them in this conspiracy.

We have tried in vain, beloved brothers, to avoid the clash and the confrontation and we have extended our hands to start dialogue and comprehension. But the conspirators refused to listen to the voice of the conscience and of the patriotic and national interests... Why?... Because the bargain with the U.S.A. included the head of the revolution, the will of the masses and the breath of revolutionary life of our Arab nation.

This multiple head conspiracy comes at a time when the revolution and its heroic Lebanese allies are leading an effective war of attrition against the Zionist enemy behind its lines and inside the occupied homeland. The events culminated in the Lebanese Arab Islamic town of Tripoli and around Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid refugee camps and the conspiracy was out in the open with the double Arab-Israeli siege and the simultaneous Arab Israeli 48 day aggression against our organization, our armed forces and the Lebanese masses who stood with us in this advanced trench in defence of the Arab nation and of its very existence in one of the most crucial and dramatic of battles.

Many unveiled themselves during this double aggression, thinking that it was the fianl act of the drama they had set, and were asking for their share of the price of treason. The artillery moved only to attack the Palestinian refugee camps and hit the Arab steadfast cities... not knowing that the revolution was stronger and firmed and remained the odd number in the Middle East equation, no matter how harsh the circumstances... and that it was only ready for yet greater solidity in front of the increased conspiracies.

Can we not be proud that the revolution while besieged in Tripoli liberated its heroic combatants from the enemy's detention camps and prisons, and this, during one of the most difficult and dangerous stages, allowing them to live today surrounded by the warm revolutionary friendship of our brothers in Algiers?

This is the revolutionary strength which is not merely "a state of amergency" nor a "passing event" in our area. It is the will of life and justice, it is the emanation of the firm belief of our masses who have proved to be our real protection at all times and in all circumstances. With them and through them we have faced the conspiracies and confronted the conspirators.

In spite of the ordeal of the departure from Tripoli, in spite of the bitterness of the call to leave which came this time from Arab sides and in completion of what Sharon and Begin had failed to achieve in Beirut and south Lebanon, and similarly to the forced departure of the forces of the revolution from the Al-Biqa', the mountain and Ba'labakk... but the revolution left with yet greater determination and strength and gave its masses this armor to protect themselves with and defend its independent will.... In spite of the harshness of the battles, the revolution has emmerged with a victory mainly over itself from the weaknesses which hit all revolutions in the long run and which are the result of the negative accumulations and the constantly renewed revolutionary interactions in the confrontation of the conspiracies, intrigues and ordeals which have never halted during our long revolutionary march.

The greatest victory at this revolution stage is the total adherence, unity, belief and determination of our masses.

Beloved brothers, heroic revolutionary brothers,

The battle of this year was the battle for convictions. This is why the heroes of our revolution and our masses inside and outside our occupied homeland have fought with this revolutionary tenacity, force and conviction in defence of the independence of their decision-making and offered it in total abnegation and self-denial....

It was thus our duty towards this ever-giving people to stop and consider in our consciences and revolutionary commitment and to understand the purpose of the unity of our people against the conspirators, and their adherence and protection to the revolution.

These masses have stood at the side of our revolution, our organization because they consider it to be the leader of their struggle. Their stand was not at the side of persons or symbols for a mere emotional fact, but for the very fact that they truly envisioned the political implications of the conspiracy on the local, Arab and international level...

This is why we had to stop and say...then .. what???

We had to say it with all our revolutionary courage. What have we prepared for these masses and what are we going to offer to the present and coming generations... What are we going to offer our children... and what can we promise them for their future... What have we to offer to Palestine... now and in the future... What have we to offer to our arab nation in these crucial arab times??...

Beloved brothers, to you heroic masses...

It is a historical responsibility, not only towards our Palestinian people, but towards our whole Arab nation... We are facing a multi face conspiracy ... It is an American-Israeli conspiracy in the wake of the strategic American-Israeli alliance and in the wake of the Arab hesitancy, silence and weakness...

What is regrettable is that some Arab parties have gotten involved in this scheme and have now their hands deep in the blood of the al-mujahidin of the Palestinian revolution and deep in the blood of all the honorable men of our Arab nation. They have violated the "sacrosanct" without any national, patriotic, religious or moral deterrent.. counting only on the bargains agreed upon with the enemies of our Arab nation.

This conspiracy is infiltrating our area with the aim of balkanization and control.

Our estimation, in the Palestinian revolution, and together with all the free and honorable men of our Arab nation was that from this advanced position in the confrontation of this attack, we stand in the position of real action and in the right direction on the path of the struggle of our Arab nation.

For all this, beloved brothers and beloved Arab masses, the attack was ferocious and we were able to defend our nation and its very existence in order to prevent it from entering an obscure era and this was the aim set by the conspirators against our masses and our coming generations.

We are proud of our capability to confront this conspiracy and its tail-agents, traitors and mercenaries.

Our masses have achieved yet another victory against the impossible in the confrontation and steadfastness, leading our Arab nation into a new joint and united stand with all the meaning this implies on the united Arab stand and the unity of our Arab masses and their unfalsified forces, in close ranks and on clear bases with clear objectives and for the benefit of this Arab nation, far from the fake slogans and calculated misrepresentations which fit within the concept of the conspiratorial plan and its implications and the dangerous sectarian partition.

We cannot but unite all the patriotic forces in our Arab nation who believe in the higher national interests of the masses and in the fidelity to the land against the American attack and the strategic American-Israeli cooperation and the American fleets and the sectarian states which are the fulfillment of the Israeli plan of sectarian partition.

We have to be fully conscious and realize the real weight of our faithful people of Egypt and of our Arab national duty in setting the bases and national principles in the higher interests of our Arab nation in order to face this scheme and confront the enemies of our nation whether Zionists or imperialists or agents .. or the princes of sectarism...

Are we beloved brothers up to the level of the present challenge??? We have to say it in all honesty and not lie to our masses during these historical and crucial moments and at this important turning point in the march of our revolution and of its military and political struggle..

With total confidence we say: "yes."

Events have proved that these al-mujahidin and these truthful masses are the owners of the decision-making, the owners of the right, because they own the conscious will and determination and the independent decision-making for which the blood of the martyrs has been shed.

This is why this move was the materialization and the embodiment of the will and determination in the midst of events and during the confrontation of the aggressions...Despite all difficulties and despite the dangers of the conspiracy we have been able to act with power and strength, within the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic movement, the African and socialist friendly states particularly the Soviet Union and Popular China and to mass friends and call for militant solidarity.

This appeared clearly in the non-aligned conference in New Delhi, during the conference of the Islamic foreign ministers in Dhaka, and during the African summit in Ethiopia and through the socialist friends in the international arenas. This went as far as massing friends in Western Europe, including France to whom we express our gratitude as well as to the French president for the protection granted to our combatants upon their departure from Tripoli, just as we thank Egypt and its president for their participation in the protection of our combatants.

We also extend our thanks to the United Nations which raised its flag on the boats.

We extend our gratitude to Italy for the facilities granted for the transfer of the wounded.

We cannot but underline the Saudi efforts and extend our gratitude to His Majesty King Fahd and the Arab brothers who have contributed to the cease fire in Tripoli between the Syrians and the P.L.O.

We have also to recall here the international Geneva conference on the question of Palestine and the resolutions and declarations which emanated from it and which were adopted by the United Nations during the last General Assembly session, and the call for a new international initiative to back up the Arab Fes peace plan by seeking advice from the Soviet initiative and the French-Egyptian initiative proposed to the Security Council.

We are awaiting the right action on the road to Palestine in this coming year, the year of revolutionary decisiveness and of the revolutionary will and of the independent decision-making.

Therefore we are bound to increase our efforts for the intensification of the resistance of our people inside our occupied homeland by all means and ways including the major means, the armed struggle.

While we start this year we cannot but extend our thanks to our brothers and sisters in the Arab world who have offered hospitality to their al-mujahidin brothers in North and South Yemen, Iraq, Sudan, Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia. This temporary hospitality to these revolutionaries on their way to Palestine.

Beloved brothers, beloved comrades in arms ...

The American-Israeli conspiracy has aimed, and with a regretable Arab approval, to strike the PLO and its national independent decision-making, as well as the annihilation of its legal structure as a prelude to the annihilation of our national inalienable rights.

But the legendary steadfastness of the combatants, cadres and revolutionaries in their confrontation, side by side with the steadfastness of our masses inside and outside our occupied homeland has succeeded in driving the conspiratorial schemes to failure and at breaking them... thus protecting and surrounding the leader of their struggle, the PLO and enabled it to defend the independence of our national decision-making and protect our national inalienable rights.

This faithfulness to our martyrs and our revolutionary heritage is also the loyalty to the pledge we have made together to confront all conspiracies and which will enable us to continue our struggle until the realization of our national objectives as contained in the resolutions of our Palestine National Council and our commit-

ment to it, this being headed by our right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of the independant Palestinian state in our homeland.

Every action we undertake on the Arab and international level is only an increase of our strength to achieve these objectives.

Beloved sons of our heroic people, your revolution is confronting this American-Israeli conspiracy and your revolution will continue to challenge it and with it all the American-Zionist annihilation plans which are being imposed on our people and on our revolution through these battles and in which certain Arab hands are helping.

In spite of all this we will continue to confront these annihilation plans including the Reagan plan which ignores the rights and national objectives of our people as well as the plan of self-rule which tends to impose on us a new form of slavery.

Our struggle will continue for the sake of our national Palestinian cause and our independent state so that every Palestinian will become a citizen of this state and we will decide, with the will we have expressed in our Palestinian National Council, on a confederation with Jordan or with any other Arab country which agrees to this.

Beloved brothers, beloved people,

To you who are standing in steadfastness under occupation and in exile... To you my comrades in arms in our glorious revolution ... Your revolution will continue its march despite all the conspiracies and all the conspirators ... Our pledge is the same ... We have sworn and pledged to the revolutionaries and to all our masses inside and outside the occupied homeland ... We have pledged that this blessed march shall continue with greater flame and strength on the long road to Palestine.. to Jerusalem .. the capital of our independant state.

Revolution until victory .. with God's help.

KUWAIT

Delegation Departs for Casablanca Meeting

LD111007 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0833 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Jan (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister, foreign and information minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, this morning left for Casablanca, Morocco, heading Kuwait's delegation to the meetings of the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries, which begin tomorrow.

Before departing, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that the conference will pave the way for the Islamic summit set to be held in Casablanca on the 16th of this month.

Regarding the PLO, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that Yasir 'Arafat is still the organization's chairman, and we recognize only him. He said he does not know if an invitation is going to be extended to attend the Islamic summit.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad stated that the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries who met in Dakha, Bangladesh, at the beginning of last month, passed a resolution and recommended that it be submitted to the summit.

Concerning the fate of the Islamic Gulf mediation efforts to end this war, he said that "this mediation was halted by Iran. We would like it to be given another chance so that we may succeed in finding an end to this war in which everyone loses and nobody wins." He expressed hope that the parties concerned will respond to common sense and logic, particularly the side that is not listening to these calls and does not respond to these good efforts.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad also expressed his sorrow at the state of health of Jordan's King Husayn. He said: "We wish his majesty a speedy recovery and abundant good health, so that he may return to serve his people and the Arab nation."

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad is accompanied by a delegation which includes Kuwait's nominated ambassador to Morocco, 'Abd al-'Aziz As-Sar'awi; Director of Administration of the Minister's Office Sulayman Majid ash-Shahin; head of international affairs at the Political Administration 'Abd al-'Aziz ash-Sharikh; Ahmad al-Murshid from the Economic Administration; Faruq an-Nuri, from the Legal Administration; Jabir Yusuf al-Malik from the Ministry of Finance; and Abdallah as-San'usi from the Protocol Department.

21 Now Detained for December Bomb Explosions

LD101342 Kuwait KUNA in English 1216 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 10 (KUNA) — The number of those in detention accused of involvement in last month's seven bomb explosions in Kuwait has risen to 21, Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad said yesterday.

The minister said in a press statement that the involvement of two of the detainees had been proven, and that investigations were continuing by concerned authorities into the other people held.

Security forces were finalizing preparation of suspects' files prior to forwarding them to the judicial authorities, the minister's statement said.

AL-WATAN Comments on Tripartite Meeting on Lebanon

LD101237 Kuwait KUNA in English 1125 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 10 (KUNA) — The tripartite Syrian-Lebanese-Saudi meeting in Riyadh Monday was primarily concerned with freezing the Lebanese situation in preparation for further moves in the region, the daily *AL-WATAN* commented editorially Tuesday.

Comparing the meeting to the 1976 four-party summit in the Saudi capital which discussed the Lebanese civil war, the paper said that the security plan proposed at Monday's talks had regional rather than internal Lebanese aims.

This was because Lebanon was the only country where the Middle East's main protagonists met face to face, and where the front with Israel was still open. In addition, the Reagan plan, being itself an outcome of developments in Lebanon, was inextricably linked to the situation in that country, the paper explained.

Thus, *AL-WATAN* said, to freeze the Lebanese crisis would, on all three counts, leave room for maneuver for a U.S.-sponsored solution to regional events. The plan is aimed at quieting public opposition to the U.S. presence in Lebanon, as well as giving the Lebanese authorities an opportunity to spread their influence to the south of the country which the Israeli occupiers, under pressure from local resistance fighters, would be prepared to withdraw from.

The Palestinian resistance would, according to the plan, be prevented from returning to the south, *AL-WATAN* said. This, following the 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting, would serve to push the Palestinians towards accepting the "Jordanian option."

But the paper doubted that Syria or the Lebanese opposition would allow the May 17 Lebanese-Israeli accord to be "shelved" in such a way, adding that agreement to the "security plan" would imply overall Arab consent to an "American solution."

The alternative that would "halt the constant retreat in the face of forces opposed to Arab aspirations," according to *AL-WATAN*, lay in the Lebanese resistance, which could not only "stem the long-term advance of Camp David," but also bankrupt Israel and America and "expose those who bank on a semi-solution."

OMAN

Foreign Minister Departs for Egypt, Morocco

GF110756 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country for Cairo this morning on his way to Morocco to attend the preparatory meeting of the Islamic summit conference that will be held in Casablanca in Morocco on 16 January.

Prior to his departure, his excellency made a statement to the radio and television correspondent in which he said that during his visit to Cairo he will meet with Egyptian officials in order to discuss with them the meetings of the Islamic summit conference so as to coordinate the stands of both countries on these meetings.

Asked about the most important topics that will be discussed during the preparatory conference of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers that is scheduled to be convened tomorrow in Casablanca, [as heard], his excellency said that all questions concerning the Islamic world will be discussed, the most important of which are the Iraq-Iran war, the Middle East question and the Palestinian question, in addition to the question of Egypt's resumption of its membership in the Islamic conference.

PDRY

YSP Central Committee Resumes 11th Session

GF101335 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The YSP Central Committee this morning resumed its third session within the framework of its 11th ordinary session, under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

During today's session, the YSP Central Committee resumed its discussion of the political report presented by the Political Bureau on the political situation, and the party's activity in the foreign policy field. The Central Committee members positively evaluated the foreign policy activity of the party's leading committee during the period between the two sessions and affirmed the importance of resuming efforts in this direction, working to strengthen our country's international position, and contributing to the Arab liberation movement and the international revolutionary movement powers in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reactionarism. This to strengthen international security and peace, and strengthen the peoples' struggle for their national liberation and social progress.

The YSP Central Committee also discussed the recent developments in the Arab arena and the Middle East region, particularly the recent developments in the Palestinian arena.

The Central Committee will resume the activities of its 11th session to discuss the rest of the issues on its agenda.

YSP Chairman Receives Message From Iranian Leader

GF071744 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received this afternoon Brother Hoseyn Fadil Nur, Iranian deputy foreign minister, who conveyed to him a written message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, dealing with relations between the two friendly countries and the means of strengthening them.

During this meeting, issues of mutual concern were also discussed. The meeting was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah.

Brother Hoseyn Fadil Nur, Iranian deputy foreign minister, arrived in Aden this morning. He was received by Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah, deputy foreign minister and Hasan Aminian, Iranian ambassador in Aden.

QATAR

Foreign Minister on Palestinian Affairs, Egypt

GF071036 Doha QNA in Arabic 0750 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] Doha, 7 Jan (QNA) — Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf al-Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, has affirmed Qatar's support for any decision accepted by the Palestinian people,which is acceptable to their legitimate leadership — represented by the PLO — and which conforms to the goals of Arab struggle to liberate the occupied territories and enable the Palestinian people to set up their independent state and determine their fate with total freedom.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, published today, and which was also published in the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH*, the Qatari minister expressed the hope that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to Egypt conforms to these goals and that it will promote the common interest.

In this regard, he noted that the Egypt of today is not that of yesterday. He indicated that all can now feel Egypt's new policies, whose weight, significance and role in supporting Arab causes no one can deny. He expressed appreciation for these efforts, which take Egypt away from the circumstances which led to the estrangement between it and the rest of the Arab countries, and which now bring it again to its genuine world.

His excellency asserted that Egypt's continued moves in this positive direction is the best way to return its relations with the Arab countries to normal. Official return of relations needs a decision by an Arab summit, he noted.

In his statement, the Qatari minister noted that the current Arab situation is in great need of the Arab summit — which is scheduled to convene in Riyadh in March — saying that the great differences in the Arab arena lead to disunity and divided ranks,and encourage the enemy to be more ambitious in the Arab nation.

He added that the developments which have taken place in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas, the Zionist enemy's repeated attempts to perpetuate its presence in southern Lebanon and its criminal aggressions in Islamic holy places in the occupied Arab territories, the occasional confrontations which take place between Syria and the United States in Lebanon, and the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war will weaken any initiative to establish peace in the Middle East and are issues which must be considered by the Arab leaders in their next summit, in order to adopt the appropriate decisions on them.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Ministers To Meet in Riyadh Again 15 Jan

NC091602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has described the Riyadh meeting on Lebanon as positive. Before leaving Riyadh, he said that his meeting with the Saudi and Lebanese foreign ministers provided an opportunity to continue the consultations on different issues connected with Lebanon.

On the possibility of achieving a Syrian-Lebanese agreement, Khaddam said that the main thing is to continue the dialogue and consultations to reach an agreement.

An official Saudi source told AFP that the three foreign ministers agreed to hold another meeting in Riyadh on 15 January.

Lebanon's Salim Denies Making Statements in Riyadh

NC091438 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] The Lebanese Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Ministry today telephoned Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim in Riyadh and briefed him on what has been attributed to him by today's newspapers on his stance on and expectations of the tripartite meeting which included himself and the Syrian and Saudi foreign ministers. Minister Salim expressed surprise over the pessimism and difficulties which the papers attributed to him. He emphasized that all that has been said to this effect is untrue. He added that he made no statements, and that he met with no reporters while in Riyadh.

Salim said finally that he will submit the results of the meetings he held with his Saudi and Syrian counterparts to President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan immediately upon his return to Beirut.

Britain's Secretary Howe Arrives for 3-Day Visit

LD101327 Riyadh SPA in English 1246 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan. 10, SPA — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and accompanying delegation arrived here today for a three-day visit to the Kingdom, as part of a current tour of the Middle East.

They were received at the airport by Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, the British ambassador to the Kingdom, James Craig, and a number of senior officials.

Defense Minister Returns From Islamabad Visit

LD102132 Riyadh SPA in English 1915 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 10 — (SPA) — Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy premier and defence and aviation minister returned home tonight from Islamabad after a visit to Pakistan.

On his arrival, he was received by Prince Sulman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyadh, Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmad ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Hail region, Prince Muqrin ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, as well as princes, ministers and senior civil and military officials.

Sau'i Papers Comment on GCC Meeting, Lebanon

LD101525 Riyadh SPA in English 1208 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 10, SPA — Saudi newspapers commented editorially today on the special meeting of the GCC foreign ministers in Riyadh last night and the current situation in Lebanon.

AL-BILAD said the GCC had crystalized the ambitions of the people of the Gulf and underlined achievements scored by the council in the political, military and economic fields, and attributed them to the hard efforts of the GCC leaders and the spirit of fraternity and love that is growing among them. The paper said the closeness of strategic and historic bonds among the Gulf peoples had helped much in realizing their goals and objectives.

It added that the GCC countries through their historic role and Arab affiliations were supporting Arab causes. The paper said the council had set an example for cooperation and it should be followed by others.

AL-MADINA said the meeting was held for coordinating GCC countries' stands on various issues that would be discussed by the Islamic summit in Morocco next week, in addition to the latest developments in the Gulf region and Lebanon. It said the meeting was in the framework of the GCC leaders' policy of coordination and cooperation. The paper added that the council was an additional force for the Islamic and Arab worlds, and was positively contributing to Islamic and Arab causes.

AL-YAWM said the meeting was held at a time of very complicated international developments; like the Palestine issue, the Iran-Iraq war and the Lebanese crisis. It said the meeting was an example which should be followed by all Arabs in international forums.

AL-JAZIRAH said the meeting aimed at coordinating the states' stance on issues to be discussed by the Islamic summit. It said last night's meeting in the Saudi capital was in the framework of the GCC responsibility toward Islamic and Arab nations.

After the formation of the council, the paper said, the stands of the Arab Gulf countries had become closer and more similar, especially those relating to Arab and Islamic issues. The paper hoped that the Moslem leaders in their upcoming summit would emerge more united for the benefit of Arabs and Moslems alike.

"At a time when all efforts seek to implement a security plan in war-torn Lebanon and to stabilize a ceasefire, the Israeli enemy escalates its intrigues to undermine the reconciliation process in the country," the paper said.

The paper called for more efforts to support "the legitimate authority in Lebanon in order to salvage south Lebanon from the pawns of Zionists, and put an end to the Israeli occupation of this dear part of the country." It said the Israeli enemy was quite aware that no security or stability in Lebanon could be achieved with the presence of Israeli troops on the Lebanese territory.

YAR

Saudi Education Minister Ends Brief Visit

Received by President Salih

GF080634 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office this evening Saudi Education Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir who during the meeting delivered to the president a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia on bilateral relations and the recent situation in the Arab and international arenas.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad Luqman, minister of municipalities and housing and acting minister of education; and the YAR ambassador in San'a'.

The Saudi minister arrived in San'a' earlier today.

Saudi Visitor Issues Statement

GF081755 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jan 84

[Text] Saudi Education Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir left San'a' yesterday evening after a brief visit to our country, during which he delivered a message to Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia on bilateral relations and new developments in the Arab and international arenas.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Al-Khuwaytir said that he carries a reply from brother leader President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his brother, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He described his meeting with the brother leader as fruitful and constructive. He indicated that relations between the YAR and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are strong and integral in all fields.

He was seen off by Brother Ahmad Luqman, minister of municipalities and housing and acting minister of education; a delegate from the protocol department; and the ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in San'a'.

Vice President Al-'Arashi Receives Iraqi Message

GF071320 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1057 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] San'a', 7 Jan (WAKH) — Judge 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president and chairman of the Constituent People's Council in the northern part of Yemen, has received a verbal message from Na'im Haddad, chairman of the Iraqi National Council, dealing with the arrangements and preparations for the meetings of the 14th session of the Arab parliamentary conference which will begin in San'a' on 22 January.

The message was conveyed by Taha Yasin 'Ali, member of the Iraqi National Council, during a meeting with Judge al-'Arashi here today. Mr 'Ali also discussed with Al-'Arashi a number of issues concerning the development of parliamentary cooperation between the two countries.

The Iraqi National Council member arrived in San'a' yesterday on a 3-day visit to the YAR.

Mubarak Would Welcome Saddam Husayn Visit

PM111010 Cairo MAY in Arabic 9 Jan 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Mubarak: We Would Welcome Brother Saddam If He Wishes To Visit Egypt"]

[Text] President Mubarak was asked for his opinion on Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's statement in which Husayn expressed the desire and hope to visit Egypt and meet with Mubarak. President Mubarak said: These are excellent words from an Arab brother. We would always welcome a visit by President Saddam Husayn. We also would welcome any Arab brother wishing to visit Egypt.

Mubarak Condoles Habre on Miskine's Death

NC101353 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable of condolences to Chadian President Hissein Habre:

I have learned with extreme regret of the death of the late foreign minister, Idriss Miskine, who served his country with devotion and loyalty. I express sincere condolences to you and the family of the departed. I implore God to grant him peace, and to guard you and your fraternal people from all harm.

Mubarak Meets Senegalese Parliament Speaker

NC101200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Jan (MENA) — At the Al-Qubbah Palace, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak before noon today received Habib Thiam, Senegalese Parliament speaker and chairman of the Francophone Parliamentarians Association, who is presently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Dr Kamil Laylah, People's Assembly speaker, and Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee.

Following the meeting, the Senegalese official said he had conveyed a message of amity, friendship, and fraternity from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf to President Mubarak, and that he was entrusted with a similar message from Mubarak to Diouf.

The Senegalese speaker thanked both Mubarak for meeting him today and Dr Laylah for the arrangements the People's Assembly made to host the Conference of French-speaking parliamentarians. Thiam also said he explained the role of the Parliamentarians Association to President Mubarak and that Mubarak expressed his approval and support of its activities.

'Ali, Al-Baz Greet Visiting Omani Foreign Minister

NC111156 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jan (MENA) — Omani Foreign Minister Yusuf al-'Alawi arrived in Cairo at noon today on a visit of several hours to Egypt. Al-'Alawi is enroute to Rabat to attend the preparatory meeting of the Islamic summit conference, scheduled to be held in Casablanca. The Omani minister was received by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and Foreign Ministry first under secretary.

In an arrival statement, Al-'Alawi said the Islamic conference will be held in extremely sensitive circumstances, which show the Arabs in dire need of solidarity and unity of ranks. These circumstances also dictate that the Arabs form a different visualization of the future in light of past experiences and events.

The Omani minister emphasized that the conference is a chance the Arabs must seize to revive and rejuvenate the Islamic spirit and to support the Arab cause. The conference, he added, will also be a chance to review all the various issues.

More Reportage on Saudi Prince Talal's Visit

Abu Ghazalah Receives Talal

NC101313 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jan (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, this afternoon met Prince Talal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, director of the Arab Gulf Program to support the UN development organizations and special UNICEF envoy. Prince Talal arrived in Cairo last Saturday on a 5-day visit to Egypt.

Muhyi ad-Din Receives Prince

NC102154 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din this evening received at his office His Highness Prince Talal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, director of the Arab Gulf Program for strengthening the UN organizations, and special UNICEF envoy. The meeting centered on ways of boosting the UN organizations' role in the social development projects in Egypt.

AL-AHRAM Interviews UK's Howe on Mideast Issues

NC110944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jan (MENA) — Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, has affirmed the EEC's interest in the possibilities and chances for consolidating accord, peace, and stability in the Middle East. In an interview with *AL-AHRAM* editor-in-chief Ibrahim Nafi', published today by *AL-AHRAM*, the British secretary said three steps recently made in the area constitute the starting point along the road toward a dialogue and solving the Middle East problem. The first was the meeting between President Mubarak and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat; the second was represented by King Husayn's decision to reactivate the Palestinian Parliament [as received]; and the third was initiated by Israeli Prime Minister Shamir when he invited Jordan to the negotiating table on the basis of the Camp David accords.

Answering a question on the role his country can play in paving the way for a dialogue between the PLO and Washington, the British secretary said his country strives for and encourages a rapprochement between the moderate Arab forces in the area, because such a rapprochement would increase the possibilities of U.S. and Israeli participation in an expanded dialogue with the other parties and would subsequently give an impetus to the peace process.

Answering a question on the situation in Lebanon and his country's stand on the Multinational Force, Geoffrey Howe said his country holds the view that the Multinational Force has been deployed in Lebanon to help strengthen the Lebanese reconciliation process and help establish peace and stability there. He added that his country had said that the forces will remain in Lebanon as long as they still have a role to play.

Asked to comment on the recent Israeli measures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the British secretary said his country has always noted that such steps would never serve the prospects of peace.

Answering a question on what he expects or would like to hear during his visits to Riyadh and Damascus, Geoffrey Howe said: I am interested in listening to the views of those countries' leaders and also in gauging the possibilities that they would back the moderate voices in the Arab world.

As-Sa'id Receives CSSR Deputy Trade Minister

NC101628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jan (MENA) — Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of foreign trade, today met with CSSR Deputy Trade Minister Jaroslav Jakubec and the delegation accompanying him, and discussed the possibility of promoting bilateral trade exchange. It is worth noting that the volume of trade between Egypt and Czechoslovakia in the past 9 months of last year totalled $125 million. Cotton and cotton yarn, textiles, aluminium ingots, citrus, and rice are the most important Egyptian exports to the Czechoslovak markets, while Czechoslovakia exports ferroconcrete, iron sheets, machines, tractors, spare parts, timber, and paper to Egypt.

More Reaction to Israeli Occupation Policy

New Contact With India

NC101628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jan (MENA) — It has been learned that a new contact took place today with the Indian Foreign Ministry, on the basis of India current chairmanship of the Nonaligned Movement, to resist Israel's contraventions [of international agreements] and attempts to implement several laws in the occupied Arab territories.

It also has been learned that the current consultations between the two countries also include requesting a meeting of the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau in New York to discuss the matter in view of the fact that Israel's measures in the occupied Arab territories contravene the Geneva and Hague agreements, the framework of peace in the Middle East, and the UN Charter.

Ghali Interviewed on Policy

PM101554 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Jan 84 p 3

[Interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Muhammad Barakat in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The Palestinians in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip are living under difficult circumstances, and as a result psychological pressure. Could you explain to us the features of this racist treatment?

Answer: In brief, there is only one feature to the Israeli policy in the occupied territories, namely, oppression by the Israeli military administration. Naturally, this is evident in the deteriorating conditions of the Palestinian Arabs living under Israeli occupation and the loss of their rights. The detention, interrogation, and sham trials to which the Palestinians in the occupied territories are subjected to daily are examples. As regards discrimination in treatment, the Arabs in the occupied territories do not enjoy any equality under the law. There are two laws in the occupied territories. One applies to the Jewish settlers, the privileged minority, and the other, which is the military law, applies directly to the Arab majority.

Question: What do you think of the coercive military system to which the Palestinians in the occupied territories are subjected?

Answer: The first aspect of ill treatment of the Arab population in the occupied territories which should be condemned is that the authorities not only coerce and oppress the Palestinian people politically, but have also imposed extremely difficult conditions on them as a result of a lack of security. The ruling authorities have flouted and ignored all international principles and charters of civil rights and have denied the people their essential liberties. Perhaps the ugliest aspect of the military rule is the collective and total punishment. The use of physical and psychological humiliation practices is a permanent feature of the ruling authorities.

Question: Mr Minister, on the basis of this review, how do you explain the obvious Israeli intransigence on the question of Palestinian human rights, particularly in view of the current peace efforts?

Answer: Without doubt, the extremely intransigent and negative Israeli attitude toward Palestinian human rights is evidence not only that Israel is not serious about participating in the peace process but also that the question of Palestinian human rights and the condition of the Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — or, in other words, Israeli's continued disinterest in the question of confidence-building which Egypt has called for and continues to call for in its contacts — is in my opinion, the main obstacle on which the peace efforts and entire peace process could founder. Egyptian diplomacy believes that confidence-building measures should be taken immediately and be given top priority because building confidence and easing tension would certainly be in the interest of peace and would

create a positive atmosphere which in turn would encourage the Palestinians to seriously think about participating in the negotiations. I want to emphasize that Israel's settlement policy and violation of Palestinian human rights constitute a serious infringement of the peace process as defined in the framework for peace in the Middle East. Israel agreed to that framework, but that adherence is in words only, not in reality or practice.

Question: What do you wish to say to the Israelis at this stage of fresh peace moves in the Middle East?

Answer: After the recent developments in the Palestinian arena, and with the appearance of signs of positive change which could lead to a serious resumption of the peace efforts, I wish to draw the attention of the Israelis to the fact that a continuation of their unacceptable policies on settlements and Palestinian human rights would certainly generate more bitterness and doubt among the moderate Palestinians whom we are trying to attract to the peace process. The present Israeli policies, which have been condemned by the whole international community and human rights organizations, and even by Israeli public opinion, now constitute a threat to the present opportunity for establishing peace. If that opportunity is lost, the whole issue would be open to all kinds of ruinous possibilities not only for the peace hopes but also for the future of the coming generations in this part of the world.

Question: Do you expect Israel to allow the 160 representatives of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to leave to participate in the PNC meetings due to be held in Tunisia in the coming weeks?

Answer: If Israel were to allow them to leave and then return after attending the PNC meetings it would certainly be a good sign along the road of confidence-building. Furthermore, their departure and participation in the Tunis conference would tip the balance in favor of the moderates and against the extremists within the PLO, and that would boost the efforts to settle the Middle East question peacefully. The Israeli decision on this matter could prove detrimental to the peace efforts. I hope Israel will pass this goodwill test.

AL-AKHBAR on Sidon Attacks

PM101056 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Jan 84 p 5

[Editorial: "And the Palestinian Tragedy Is Repeated"]

[Text] It is difficult to find the right words to describe yesterday's Israeli attack on innocent civilians in the commercial street of Sidon, southern Lebanon. Israeli tanks and armored vehicles opened fire on pedestrians, cars, and shops after encircling the street. It was a flagrant bestial and barbaric operation the likes of which human beings would never commit.

The attack was in many ways similar to the Dayr Yasin massacre and other massacres Israel committed in Palestine to empty the land of its people. The Zionists came up with excuses to justify their unforgivable massacres in Palestine. What is their justification for this criminal attack on the people of southern Lebanon? What happened in Sidon was most probably nothing more than a manifestation of Israeli nostalgia for slaying and killing innocent people to force them to abandon their land to be freely plundered by the Israelis.

In view of what has happened, we must firmly point out that it may now be Lebanon's turn after Palestine and that Israel is testing the reaction to a repetition in a part of Lebanon of what it has already done to most parts of Palestinian territory. Israel's ambitions in that part of Lebanon are known.

The operations carried out by the Lebanese fedayeen against the Israeli occupation forces do not justify what Israel did yesterday to the civilians of Sidon. These operations reflect rejection of the Israeli occupation and hegemony and its pretexts for invading Lebanon. No self-respecting and proud people should accept foreign occupation, wrath, and oppression.

What Israel did to the Lebanese civilians is more than a war crime because there is no Lebanese Army facing the Israeli Army ofoccupation. It is more than a mere crime of aggression because the aim is to intimidate and terrorize the people to force them to leave their land so that Israel may violate and colonize it and settle it.

What Israel did kills every aspiration to peace and ignites war at a time when many people in the West and the Arab states are advocating peace. The international community is urged more than ever before to take a clear stand on what Israel is doing. We particularly mention the United States, France, Britain and Italy. Above all, we urge the Arabs to prove they can live up to their responsibilities and meet the challenge with solidarity and agreement to deal with this matter.

Danish Paper Interviews Ghali on Negotiations

PM101601 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 2 Jan 84 p 4

[Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali "New Year" interview with Mogens Kofod-Hansen: "The Egyptians Believe in Peace After 6 Years of Negotiations"]

[Text] Cairo — The situation in the Middle East today is ten times worse than a few years ago. To a large extent, this is the Arabs' own fault. However, the situation also has positive features. This is first and foremost due to Egyptian-Israeli peace which is still holding and will continue, even though there has been a "cold peace" since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. In midst of the negative trends at the present moment, there is also hope that we are at the start of a long process which in time will be able to lead to general peace in the Middle East.

These are some of the main views — in somewhat compressed form — put forward by the brain behind Egypt's foreign policy, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, in a long New Year interview with *BERLINGSKE TIDENDE* in Cairo.

The background to the interview is the major and growing role Egypt has again come to play in the Middle East — despite still being formally excluded from the Arab League because of the Camp David agreement.

It is characteristic that Egypt was Yasir 'Arafat's first stop after his flight from Tripoli. Politicians, technicians, and businessmen from many Arab states are making pilgrimages to Egypt. The Israelis at the same time are trying to take the temperature of the Arab world with the help of Egypt. And recently, Jerusalem attached the greatest importance to the fact that for the first time in over a year Israel received an official visit from a high-ranking Egyptian representative, Foreign Ministry Deputy Secretary of State Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, who went to discuss "the acceleration of the peace process."

Butrus Ghali is well known, also respected by those who disagree with him, and feared for his sharp brain, formidable knowledge, and realist's ability to say things directly. His assessment of the many factors which influence developments in the Middle East — which are of vital importance to the rest of the world — cannot be igniored by anyone involved in the major decision-making process of war or peace in that area, which in our generation has constantly been the number one center of world unrest.

Asked whether Egypt is on its way back to the Arab camp after its expulsion following President As-Sadat's peace treaty with Israel, Ghali said: "You must differentiate between transnational relations (relations between peoples) and official relations. On the first point, nothing has changed; on the contrary, the bonds between peoples, between us and other Arabs have been strengthened; they are even more intensive than in Jamal 'abd An-Nasir's days. Over 3 million Egyptian experts are working today in other Arab countries, while thousands upon thousands of students, civil servants, and other people from those countries are being educated at our educational institutions."

Speaking of official contacts, he added: "We still have diplomatic relations with all Arab countries with the exception of Syria, Libya, and South Yemen. Good, stable bilateral cooperation continues to take place. However, we only have embassy-level relations with a few countries. However, we are not concerned over that. We believe that the problem will be solved sooner or later. And despite everything, it is a secondary problem. The important things are the Palestinian and Lebanese problems. We must not allow our attention to be diverted from those."

The minister expressed regrets that attention had nevertheless been attracted by other problems: the war between Iraq and Iran; the disagreements between Syria and Iraq; the struggle in the Western Sahara between Algeria and Morocco; Libya's intervention in Chad; the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia; and so on. He also admitted that the Palestinian and Lebanese problems had been exacerbated because of the internal struggle between 'Arafat and his opponents in the PLO and by the Syrian interference — and also by a certain lack of agreement between the United States and Israel.

"Yes, that is unfortunately how things stand, but there is no reason to stop looking for a solution. We have to admit that because of the Arabs' own internal disagreements the situation today is 10 times more difficult than a few years ago. But it was even more difficult after the Arabs' defeat in June 1967. It all depends on how you look at things. Some people say that the glass is half-empty, others that it is half-full. On the one hand, you can say that the picture today is gloomy. On the other hand, I can show a completely different picture — that Egypt has signed a peace treaty with Israel, that we respect it despite everything, and that the Israelis have withdrawn from all the Egyptian territory they had occupied."

To the list of "positive elements" Butrus Ghali added Egypt's close contacts with the United States and Jordan and the fact that in April the Jordanians and 'Arafat were on the verge of agreement to seek a negotiated settlement within the framework of the Reagan plan. "Regardless of how gloomy the situation is, we should not allow ourselves to be gripped by pessimism. Here in Egypt we have the political will to continue the struggle for peace. With this in view, we will continue to seek new paths and make new contacts, for example, with the EEC countries, the Council of Europe's 21 members, the nonaligned nations, the United States, and so on."

Ghali said he is convinced that the other Arab nations will eventually realize that Egypt's peace policy is correct and consequently seek an understanding with Israel. He mentioned the declaration from last year's Arab summit in Fes, Morocco which speaks of "coexistence between all the region's (the Middle East's) countries." When I said, "Yes, but there is no specific mention of Israel," he said, "No, but the declaration was a first step and I believe they will increasingly come to accept our methods and peace policy."

Egypt does not think it has the "copyright" on how a broad Middle East peace should look. "We want to be pragmatic and flexible and participate in every diplomatic peace initiative," he said. "But as long as no new framework for our peace policy is created, we will keep to the framework we know." This is the Camp David agreement and Reagan plan, which Egypt supports and defends.

In response to a leading question from me on whether Syria's armed interference in Lebanon and in the Palestinians' internal struggle is not proof that the Syrians do not want peace and are unwilling to recognize the existence of a Jewish State, a free Palestine, or an independent Lebanon, Butrus Ghali replied:

"No, here I disagree with you to some extent. I take the view that you should not read too much into various (aggressive) Syrian declarations. I believe Syria will be ready to negotiate. It will take time, but our position is clear: We say we must talk to the Syrians and will urge the Lebanese and Americans to do the same. Despite everything, Syria is an important element in the peace process — a long and difficult process, which I am sure will sooner or later lead to a general peace in the Middle East."

Will Egypt embark on new peace initiatives? It is ready to, but "only if we can at least be sure of support from the United States and Israel. Otherwise, it would only be an academic initiative." Butrus Ghali said Egypt is ready to propose new negotiations on the foundation of the Reagan plan, but this would require the participation of the Jordanians, Palestinians, and Egyptians together with the Americans and Israelis. He believes it will be possible to draw the Palestinians into the negotiations on the basis of which King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat were about to agree on in April — agreement that the Palestinians would be represented by people from the West Bank.

The Egyptian spokesman does not consider Yasir 'Arafat's role to be played out. "'Arafat will probably give himself time to reassess the situation and then to begin negotiations with King Husayn again. It is true that he has suffered a harsh blow, but he is still very popular on the West Bank and in Gaza. He still is 'Mr Palestine.' And that is important," he said. Butrus Ghali, who in his stressing the need for a solution to the Palestinian problem did not once mention that take place in the form of a Palestinian state.

It is clear from Butrus Ghali's statements that none of this upsets Egypt's desire to maintain pece with Israel and extend it into a broader peace. "I must admit that after Israel's invasion of Lebanon I invented the expression "cold peace" to describe our relations, but there is no less peace for that. We respect it, we still trade with Israel, we receive Israeli tourists in Cairo and there are Israeli institutions operating here. We have an embassy in Tel Aviv, but will not send an ambassador back there until the political climate changes."

Inevitably I ask whether the climate will be improved by a change of government in Jerusalem. Butrus Ghali is diplomatic enough not to interfere in internal Israeli politics. But a stay of almost a week in Cairo leaves you in doubt that people in official Egyptian circles believe that the peace process could be given a shot in the arm and make new progress if Yitzhaq Shamir's Likud government were replaced by a Labor Party government. Nevertheless, the minister of state for foreign affairs is primarily an optimist. He concluded: "After 6 years of negotiations you cannot do otherwise than believe in the peace process...."

Al-AHRAM on Country's Military Strength

PM110932 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 6 Jan 84 pp 1, 3

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' article: "Peace Banners and Drums of War"]

[Excerpts] We need to pause from time to time to ascertain that we are building a military strength capable of defending the country, just as we paused earlier to ascertain that we were taking the right steps toward solving the economic problem. With a strong economy capable of overcoming difficulties, a developing military strength, and a people capable of utilizing those two strengths, the triangle that represents the strength — or weakness — of a society is complete. Since the human element needs no further study and research, I have concentrated my study on the other two elements: economic and military strength.

In this article, I will try to trace our steps to build a military strength and preserve it in the midst of the volcanoes erupting around us on all sides and of the dangers and disturbances that have been threatening our area for many years.

In this article I will first deal with a naive question sometimes asked by some people who wrongly link the two fundamental elements of the triangle forming the strength of society namely, economic and military strength.

Some people wonder: If our economic problem is so difficult to solve despite sound economic steps and our sincere will, why is military spending in peacetime at the same or nearly the same level as during wartime? This serious question reveals two basic misconceptions:

The first is the notion that we are in a real peacetime during which no dangers threaten us and our dreams are not disturbed by potential dangers. This is an illusion refuted by the palls of smoke rising in the sky throughout the area, from the Iraqi-Iranian borders to the Lebanese arena and the rest of the trouble spots around us.

The second is the idea that a state of peace requires us to loosen the belts and remove the objective of protecting the national security and territory from its permanent place at the head of the important national tasks of any state. Peace never means surrender to the will of any big or small power. The protection of peace requires a capable and effective military strength that is no different from that needed to fight battles and wars.

We need to build an Egyptian military strength capable of deterrence and protecting Egyptian territory. This concept can be more explicitly explained by saying that the concept of deterrence means the availability of a capability that ensures the prevention of aggression against Egypt. Should such an aggression take place for whatever reason, we must have the capability to repel and destroy it and protect the national territory.

For Egypt to have a deterrent capability, it should have the military strength capable of it. More important still is that the international parties around us must "know" that our country has this capability to deter and be "certain" that any aggression against Egypt will lead to more losses than gains.

Had Israel been certain that it would face real resistance in its invasion of Lebanon and that it would incur heavy human and material losses during it, Israel would not have launched it because in this case it would have been the loser.

Certainly if Israel had known for certain that it was going to lose 300 or 400 tanks, 50 or 60 planes, 10,000 dead, and 10,000 wounded it would not have thought of invading Lebanon. But the loss of some 500 dead or wounded and a little equipment is not a loss that would deter it from aggression.

From this stems the need for Egypt to adopt the concept of deterrence, with its three elements which is also required for any country wishing to defend its national soil. The three elements of deterrence in all military concepts are the availability of adequate military strength for deterrence, the conviction of others that such a capability is available, and the will to fully use this capability in deterrence and repelling aggression.

A state may have the strength to deter and the ability to use it but may not have the will or determination to use this strength in militarily resisting and repelling aggression.

Egyptian strategic thought fully believes, without any attempt at self-deception, that Egypt's capability to defend its territory in the midst of the storms surrounding it on every side lies in the need to have all three of these elements of the deterrence concept.

I can say our country is rapidly proceeding along this constantly difficult path in order to achieve this concept and that it is also seeking to enhance its military efficiency by depending on the three principal elements:

1. The continued building of modern military strength supplemented with sophisticated weapons from more than one international source.

2. Continued training, the improvement of combat capability, and assimilation of the lessons of regional battles and wars, both close to and distant from our borders.

3. The boosting of our ability to produce and develop arms, ammunition, and spare parts in order to build our military capability and ensure ideal utilization of this ability to enhance both our military and economic strengths.

However, military industrialization needs finance. Even more important than finance, it needs to be considered by the Arab brothers and partners in the common destiny as a fundamental element in strengthening the Arab capability to confront the dangers surrounding the entire Arab nation.

Egypt can import the advanced technology necessary for the manufacture of sophisticated arms. It has the necessary manpower to utilize such technology. So why don't the Arabs benefit from these strategic advantages in order to strengthen the building of an Arab military industry and obtain Egyptian Arab arms with the same standard of efficiency as the arms they purchase from the West and East. The Arab delegations that recently visited Egypt saw the degree of progress the Egyptian arms industry has achieved. Why don't they support it by buying its products and giving them preference over Western products? Besides representing a strategic depth for the Arab capability, the Egyptian arms industry can offer the Arabs less expensive arms because the cost of Egyptian labor is less, so the cost of the arms will also be less.

The delegates saw the superiority of the Egyptian "Fahd" armored vehicle and witnessed how it was the only vehicle to pass all the tests, and how its armor was stronger than any Eastern or Western vehicle tested in Egypt as a comparison to the Egyptian vehicle. It was designed by Egyptian officers and engineers, although certain Western countries helped us produce a purely Egyptian design. The vehicle will cost half the price of any similar armored vehicle in the world. Its greatest advantage is that all other armored vehicles in the world provide no protection against 20 milimeter fire, whereasthis vehicle does because its armor is so designed. Also, all other armored vehicles can be penetrated by bullets fired from a distance of 30 meters, while this vehicle cannot be penetrated by bullets fired at even pointblank range.

Therefore, it is not a question of preference but rather of being convinced of the importance of supporting this industry and opening markets to it so that it contributes to Arab strength and the capability to confront aggression.

There remain two important questions currently being asked and to which the answers can clearly decide important issues.

The first is whether the participation of the Armed Forces in civil works, such as the building of bridges and establishment of automatic bakeries, farms, and projects for increasing meat production means we are charging these forces with civilian tasks that divert their attention from their main task of training, raising the standard of combat efficiency, and building a strong army, in addition to their defense of the national territory.

The second question is: How far does the role of the Egyptian fighter go in defending Arab national security? Is this role solelyconfined to the Egyptian borders or is it possible to go beyond them and become involved in external situations indirectly affecting Egypt's security? In other words, is it acceptable to send Egyptian soldiers outside their country to fight, and what is Egypt's policy regarding this?

These issues can be dealt with clearly and frankly:

It is a common mistake to say that the Egyptian Armed Forces are building bridges and involved in food security projects. The Armed Forces do not carry out such tasks; in other words, the Armed Forces' combat units do not carry out such tasks because their basic task is to fight and defend the nation. As for the projects in question, they are being carried out by the National Service Department of the Defense Ministry, which is a separate organ and has nothing to do with the Armed Forces formations in the Second or Third Army or in the forces in the western or central areas.

It is a known fact that recruitment to the Armed Forces greatly exceeds their need for men, even if we were to double their size, which is out of the question. For this reason, we have charged the National Service Department in the Defense Ministry with carrying out certain works and projects to ensure self-sufficiency in foodstuffs and other material for the Armed Forces. Because production projects require a certain amount of production to be economically viable, we have expanded the utilization of those projects for this purpose. For example, if the Armed Forces needed 35 or 40 million eggs yearly to feed the troops, and we set up an egg production project and produced only 40 million eggs, this would not be an economically viable project. However, if we produced 128 million eggs we would reduce the cost of production per egg to 46 milliemes, allowing us to supply the forces and their families with eggs at 60 milliemes each.

With regard to the more important question regarding the role of the Egyptian fighter, the decision to send the him outside his territory under no circumstances lies with the military command. It is primarily the decision of the Egyptian people and political command. On the other hand, the Egyptian Armed Forces believe their number one basic task is to ensure the security of Egypt, that is, to defend the country, prevent any aggression against it, and repel such aggression if it takes place. They also believe their duty is to help anyone who wants such help. The means of help and assistance do not always require sending Egyptian forces outside the borders. Such help can take many forms, such as sending advisers and instructors or bringing individuals to Egypt for training, in addition to arms aid. It has been proved beyond any doubt that defense not based on inherent resources can never provide a country with strong defense. This is evident from events occurring all around us. National defense

is defense primarily based on self-capability. Under no circumstances can a political decision by a state that seeks foreign troops to defend it be a free decision by common standards. Therefore, such a decision is bound to be influenced by the desires and policies of the state that provides the troops.

Therefore, we can offer the Arabs much aid in training, expertise, and arms, as well as in manufacturing spare parts and arms especially for them. The only situation in which we can send the Egyptian soldier to perform combat duty outside the borders of the country is if one day there is a joint defense agreement between us and certain Arab countries, a strategic cooperation between us, and the Arab nation has one strategic objectivewhich it is seeking to achieve, and if the people and political command decide this is a pan-Arab duty.

I would add here that when all this is achieved the Egyptian soldier will shoulder the responsibility of securing his country, defending it, and repelling aggression against it, all of which are great pan-Arab [qawmiyyah] tasks and supreme national tasks. To defend Egypt is, in the final analysis, to defend the Arab nation and build its military capability. It is a basic contribution to the building of Arab strength until the day when the historical inevitability comes to pass, when the Arab nation unites in defense of its existence and destiny. That day could be a long way off in the present circumstances, but it certainly will be achieved one day.

At the end of the article on the economic situation in our country we said we are on the right path to economic reform and building our economic strength. Today we say we also are on the right path to building a deterrent military strength.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,337

JN101654 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1622 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jan (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces have inflicted further human and material losses on the Iranian forces of aggression. Our forces killed nine and wounded a number of others. They destroyed one 106-mm gun and killed those manning it. They also destroyed one hardware stockpile, one observation post, one infantry position, and two weapons emplacements. Iraqi Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,337 issued here tonight also said that the Iranian regime's artillery shelled the village of Ash-Shihabi today, damaging the village mosque. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,337 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The proud Iraqis are continuing their brave operations at the front in defense of the dear homeland, the people's dignity, and the nation's honor. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. In the area east of Basra, our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite Iraqi positions, killing four and wounding others. Our forces destroyed one 106-mm gun and killed those manning it. They also destroyed one infantry position and two weapons emplacements.

2. Sighting a group of enemy soldiers opposite our positions in the northern sector of the front, one of our forward units opened artillery fire and killed four of them.

3. One was killed, and one machine gun emplacement and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. One observation post was destroyed in the central sector.

5. The evil, criminal Iranian ruling clique shelled the Ash-Shihabi village today with artillery, damaging the village mosque.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 January 1984

Portuguese Foreign Minister Comments on Iraq-Iran War

JN101010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jan (INA) — Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama has called for clear international action, with positive superpower participation to stop the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* published here today, the foreign minister who is currently visiting Iraq said that his country supports the UN resolutions calling for a cease-fire between the two countries and a peaceful solution to the conflict. He stressed that his country is concerned about promoting its political and economic relations with Iraq. He said that Portugal seeks to sign a cultural cooperation agreement with Iraq.

The Portuguese foreign minister pointed out that his country realizes Iraq's position in the Arab world and the region. He said: In light of this, Portugal seeks to promote its relations with Iraq as this was an important key to Arab- Portuguese relations.

The Portuguese foreign minister stressed his country's concern to promote its relations with the Arab world on the basis of bilateral historical relations. He pointed out that in Portugal, there are clear signs of the Arab-Portuguese relations.

Regarding the U.S. military bases in the Canary Islands, Gama pointed out that Portugal stipulates that the United States must seek its approval before using these bases and that the use of these bases must be in harmony with Portugal's international relations and interests. He emphasized that Portugal has not allowed the stockpiling or deployment of nuclear weapons. He asserted that the United States has no missiles or strategic bombers on Portugese territories.

Regarding Portugal's joining of the EEC, the Portuguese foreign minister pointed out that the next 6 months were a crucial stage in the negotiations. He said that it was necessary for Portugal to rearrange its economic situation to bring it in harmony with membership qualifications and that this was in the process of being done.

President Receives Gama, Message

JN101141 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received a message from Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares. The message deals with bilateral cooperation and the situation in the region. Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama delivered the message when President Saddam Husayn received him here today.

President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's desire to promote relations with Portugal. He also praised Iraqi-Portuguese relations and stressed Iraq's concern for peace and security in the region and the world and guaranteeing the common interests of all parties. During the meeting, they discussed the situation in the region and the dangers facing international peace and stability due to the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. Attending the meeting were Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the president's secretary; and the Portuguese ambassador in Baghdad.

Information Minister Meets Gama

JN102218 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 10 (INA) — Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information, met this evening with Jaime Gama, Portugese minister of foreign affairs, and his delegation. During the meeting, bilateral relations between Iraq and Portugal and the means of promoting them, particularly in the field of information in order to serve the interests of the two friendly countries, were discussed.

Agreements Signed; Visit Ends

LD101453 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama's official visit to Iraq ended today. After a meeting with President Saddam Husayn, Jaime Gama signed an economic cooperation treaty with Iraq. The two sides also signed a cultural cooperation agreement regarding bilateral cooperation in science, technology, and sports.

The chairman of Petrogal [Portuguese state oil company], Pires de Miranda, and the chairman of the Iraqi state oil company this morning signed a contract agreement providing for the purchase by Portugal this year of Iraqi oil costing approximately 18.5 billion escudos. This amount corresponds to that spent last year on imports of Iraqi oil. The contract signed today, however, is flexible since it allows our country to purchase more oil than the amount stipulated in the contract, if it so wishes.

In the political sphere, the most significant aspect was Jaime Gama's meeting with President Saddam Husayn, described as friendly and frank. Jaime Gama, who spoke to journalists before the meeting, referred to the situation of war between Iraq and Iran and took the view that only the United States and the USSR can be of assistance in bringing this war to an end. Regarding the conflict, Jaime Gama said that its escalation will have serious repercussions in the area.

Anti-Syrian Front Greets President on Army Day

JN111132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1054 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Jan (INA) — The National Alliance for the Liberation of Syria has hailed President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people and expressed confidence that Iraq will remain the forward liberated base of the Arab homeland and achieve victory over its enemies — the Iranian rulers, the Zionists and their agents among the so-called Arabs such as Hafiz al-Asad.

This came in a cable which President Saddam Husayn received from the alliance on the 63d anniversary of the Iraqi Army. The cable says:

The 63d anniversary of the Iraqi Army takes place while Iraq continues for the 4th year to wage its just war on behalf of the Arab nation and in defense of its territory, honor, dignity, and sanctities against a rancorous racist enemy, which has chosen to direct its spearheads at the heart of patient Iraq and its brave Army so as to divert Iraq from its main mission of fighting Zionism and world imperialism and their agents in the region.

The cable adds: The renegade regime and its leader Hafiz al-Asad have chosen to become the protectors of Zionist and imperialist interests in our Arab territory and the implementer of their plans, especially the liquidation of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, and before that the crushing of the Syrian people's national spirit.

President Receives Gulf Labor Ministers

JN101754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn this evening received the heads of the delegations participating in the sixth session of the Arab Gulf countries' ministerial Council of Labor and Social Affairs. The situation in the region was reviewed during the meeting. Ahmad Husayn, director of the president's office, and Babakr Muhammad Rasul, minister of labor and social affairs, attended the meeting.

'Alwan Returns From Malaysia, Indonesia

JN101636 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1612 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jan (INA) — Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Baghdad today following official visits to Malaysia and Indonesia. 'Alwan discussed with the two countries' officials bilateral relations and issues on the agenda of the fourth Islamic summit conference which will be held shortly in Morocco. He also discussed the Iraqi-Iranian war with them and the threat it poses to international security, particularly in this important region of the world. The Indonesian and Malaysian officials reiterated their support for the current endeavors to stop the war and solve the dispute peacefully.

Royal Decree Names New Cabinet Under 'Ubaydat
JN101855 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1825 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has issued the following decree forming a new Cabinet:

We, Husayn I, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, upon the resignation of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, and taking cognisance of Article 35 of the Constitution, decree the following:

1. Ahmad 'Ubaydat will be appointed prime minister and minister of defense. And, upon recommendation of the prime minister:

2. Sulayman 'Arar will be appointed deputy prime minister and interior minister.

3. Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim at-Tarawinah will be appointed minister of state for prime minister's affairs and minister of justice.

4. Tahir Nash'at al-Masri will be appointed minister of foreign affairs.

5. Dr Muhammad 'Addub az-Zabin will be appointed minister of communications.

6. Ibrahim Ayyub will be appointed minister of supply.

7. Hikmat as-Sakit will be appointed minister of education.

8. Dr Jawad al-'Anani will be appointed minister of industry, trade, and tourism.

9. Tahir Hikmat will be appointed minister of transportation.

10. Dr Hanna 'Awdah will be appointed minister of finance.

11. Mrs Layla Sharaf will be appointed minister of information.

12. Engineer Hamdallah an-Nabulsi will be appointed minister of municipal and rural affairs and environment.

13. 'Abd Khalaf ad-Dawudiyah will be appointed minister of religious affairs and holy places.

14. Muhammad Bashir will be appointed minister of agriculture.

15. Dr Taysir 'Abd al-Jabir will appointed minister of labor.

16. Shawkat Mahmud will be appointed minister of occupied territories.

17. Dr Kamil al-'Ajluni will be appointed minister of health.

18. Engineer Ra'if Najm will be appointed minister of public works.

19. Dr 'Abdallah 'Uwaydat will be appointed minister of culture, youth, and antiquities.

20. 'Abd as-Salam Kan'an will be appointed minister of social development.

Issued at Basman Palace, Amman, on 10 January 1984.

Badran Letter of Resignation
JN101934 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1803 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Mudar Badran submitted the following letter of resignation to His Majesty King Husayn:

Your Majesty King Husayn, may God preserve you. With a heart full of faith in Your Majesty's leadership, I submit to your exalted office sincere loyalty, amity, and boundless respect.

Your Majesty, when you entrusted me with the responsibility of heading the Cabinet for the third time, you honored me and provided both me and my colleagues the ministers with the opportunity to perform a public service under your leadership and under the canopy of the wide national framework that has been and will continue to be from the fabric of the great Arab revolution, whose banner you are championing.

Your Majesty, you have inspired this Cabinet with determination to implement and achieve and with determination to remain patient and have faith. These things have been the strong moral beacon that brightly lit the Cabinet's course for constructive and serious work. The Cabinet took great care in exerting every possible effort to translate the royal directives contained in the royal letter asking me to form the Cabinet. In spite of the difficulties and the delicate circumstances through which our region has passed, the Cabinet has achieved what it hopes will be worthy of this homeland and this nation. This would not have been possible without the guidance, trust, and support of Your Majesty and without the leadership of you, who have devoted yourself to building our beloved Jordan and to championing the objectives of our nation, which has always been proud of its outstanding militant history.

Your Majesty, after this period during which I and my colleagues have collaborated on this march of progress and construction under your enlightened and courageous leadership, while I predict a brilliant future for our beloved Jrodan with the return of parliamentary life which Your Majesty has taken great care to establish and consolidate, and proceeding from the constitutional traditions that you have always sponsored, I wish to submit to Your Majesty the resignation of my Cabinet. I express my belief and the belief of my colleagues that the fields in which one can serve Your Majesty are wide open to all sons of your loyal people. We would also like to reiterate the pledge that we will remain the loyal soldiers of the leader of this homeland, may God grant them glory and success. May God preserve you and guide your steps on the road to success.

[Signed] The loyal and faithful Mudar Badran, Amman, 10 January 1984

King's Letter to Badran

JN101907 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1807 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has addressed the following letter to Mudar Badran: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Dear Brother His Excellency Mudar Badran, may God preserve you. I send to Your Excellency our heartfelt greetings, sincerest love, and deepest appreciation.

Since I have known you, you have always been a example to be followed in honesty to the homeland, loyalty to the throne, loyalty to the nation's message, and enthusiasm coupled with effort and generosity so that every area in Jordan could achieve prosperity. You used to inform us of the good news whenever God granted our country a source of benefit or a site of growth, or whenever an industry was established. The long years of effort and work you have spent are proof of your deep afinity with the homeland and your loyalty to its message, the message of the great Arab revolt whose high principles and objectives we struggle to realize and to which we have devoted every part of our lives.

As I accept the resignation of the Cabinet, I hope you will continue to assume your responsibilities until a new government is formed. I am confident that you and your colleagues will remain in the vanguard of soldiers who are able to serve and to give in any field of true citizenship and duty. As I extend my heartfelt personal wishes and deepest appreciation to you, I hope that God will grant you continued happiness, good health, and success. I hope that God will help us in our march toward glory and Jordan's dignity.

Amman, 10 January 1984

Husayn's Charge to 'Ubaydat

JN102056 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1811 GMT 10 Jan 84

["Text" of King Husayn's letter to Ahmad 'Ubaydat, entrusting him with forming a new Cabinet — read by announcer]

[Text] Dear brother Ahmad 'Ubaydat, may God preserve you. I send you my greetings, stressing my pride and confidence in you.

Through our country's confident march and your long, sincere service, I have known you to be a good citizen, an honest soldier, and an efficient official who is committed to moral values. You have been bold in defending the truth, clear in your position, and devoted in your service to the country and people. Now that my dear Brother Mudar Badran has submitted to me his resignation, which I have accepted with gratitude because of his good efforts and achievements, I am entrusting you with forming the new Cabinet so that you may continue to carry the banner and the trust.

I am confident that you and the new Cabinet will continue to carry out your responsibilities with tremendous determination, resolve, and faith, embodying in both word and deed the significance of the return to parliamentary life, which represents the contribution of the representatives of the people and the government within the framework of an earnest desire to give this democratic experiment its genuine significance and living content. This democratic experiement is an extension and an entrenchment of our unified Jordanian family. It is also a unique phase in the history of cohesion between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and in their fusion in the same crucible with their hopes and sufferings in the face of challenges and vicissitudes.

Although the Palestinian cause is our first cause from the pan-Arab viewpoint, for us here in Jordan it is the cause we are living every moment of our lives. It permeates all of our policies. This cause is reflected in all the factors of our existence. The current phase of this cause is characterized by a rife Israeli aggression represented by the occupation and its expansionist policies at the expense of the Palestinian people and territory. This phase is also characterized by the greatness of our people, who are adhering to the land of their forefathers and who are struggling for their liberty and national rights.

The continuous and expanding Israeli aggression against Palestine is very clear. The results of this aggression and its consequences directly affect us here in Jordan before any other Arab country or other side. The sharing of interests, harm, and fate between the Jordanian people and their brothers, the Palestinian people, affirms our pan-Arab commitment to work together to reach both our national and pan-Arab aspirations. Because of this fact, and in view of our two people's profound awareness of it, we are determined to continue our responsible dialogue with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the free legitimate organization that represents the aspirations and interests of the Palestinian people, in order to develop a formula of joint cooperation and to go side by side, with mutual trust and desire, to reach our aim of ending the occupation and restoring the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights.

Jordan was and will continue to be true to its commitment and will always keep its promises. This picture constitutes the hard core of a joint Arab action connected with the Palestinian cause. It is the starting point of the sound path toward realizing the cherished goal to which the Jordanians, the Palestinians, and all the Arabs look forward.

National unity is a principle as well as a practice. The unified Jordanian-Palestinian march, which has preserved equilibrium from the very beginning, has never been at the expense of the final solution to the Palestinian problem, be it the Palestinian rights or identity. It has always been a positive factor conducive to the cherished solution. We, the Jordanians and Palestinians, who are the main parties to the Palestinian problem, are called upon to coordinate and unify our efforts. We, before anybody else, will be responsible before history for any failure to agree on a formula to mobilize the immense Arab resources and move with our brothers in all directions in order to save the Palestinian people and territory.

Jordan, which is proud of its nation, loyal to its glories and aspirations, and believes in the inevitability of its victory even though dark clouds are overshadowing its arena and trends of fragmentation and differences are deeply rooted in it, will continue work on the road to regaining Arab solidarity and consolidating and entrenching it — given that it is the practical formula that will restore credibility and seriousness to Arab action and thus enable it to employ all of its potentials and the requisites of its strength in an exemplary manner in the service of our nation's objectives and causes, foremost of which is the Palestinian cause.

We will also exert the utmost efforts to develop the way in which decisions in the Arab League are made in such a manner that will provide our nation with flexibility and ability to move in confronting the problems and issues it is facing. This will allow it to emerge from the state of sedation and inaction to which it has withdrawn as a result of a method of action which experience has proved inadequate and a failure, the cause of a series of successive pan-Arab disappointments, and a contribution to the deterioration from which the nation is suffering.

Although Zionist expansionism, in view of its position in the Arab homeland, is an imminent threat to the Arab nation, the Iranian regime's continued aggression against Iraq is both athreat to the rights and freedom of the Iraqi people and also to Arab interests throughout the region. Our support for our brothers in Iraq and the mobilization of Arab support for Iraq is, in our opinion, support for what is right and support that will avoid more bloodshed. We support Iraq, which is extending its hand to achieve peace from a position of strength. We also support the principles which it is stressing to settle the dispute, principles that stem from Iraq's concern over neighborly relations and the policy of noninterference in the domestic affairs of either of the two countries.

In Lebanon, where the danger of partition and fragmentation is increasing with the continued Israeli occupation of the south, we remain committed to our stand of support for efforts to achieve Lebanese national reconciliation, the withdrawal of the Israeli forces of invasion from its territory, and the withdrawal of all non-lebanese forces so that Lebanon can regain its sovereignty over all of its territory and its people can regain their national unity.

Since its establishment, Jordan has worked to establish relations of friendship, understanding, and cooperation with the various countries in the world, irrespective of their systems — whether within the United Nations framework or on the level of bilateral relations. Jordan will continue this policy out of its belief in the importance of collective action for safeguarding world peace, restraining the forces of evil and aggression, and bringing about a world whose economy, growth, and cultural interaction will be more balanced. From this premise, we view the world as an open arena which must be explored and one where our presence as Arabs, Jordanians, and Palestinians must be continuously felt in the service of all our Arab causes, whether they be political, economic, or cultural. The international arena will continue to remain a very important arena in our effort to mobilize support for the Palestinian cause in particular.

The first concern of the homeland will continue to be our Arab Army, the protector of the homeland, the defender of independence, and the symbol of sacrifice and dignity. Though resources and potentials are scarce, this topic will receive the utmost attention and support so that our Army will remain, as always, at the highest level of preparedness, efficiency, development, and armament.

Our educational and cultural achievements have been one of the sources of pride of our Jordanian experiment. We are dutybound to devote all possible efforts to developing educational programs and curricula, linking the educational operation in many of its objectives to the needs of development and the requirements of progress and growth, and keeping pace with the spirit of the age. This will be done while closely supervising education stage by stage in order to pinpoint the factors of weakness and find remedies for them in light of the experience of the advanced countries, while not forgetting to take into consideration our values, genuine traditions, and our special social circumstances.

The circumstances under which you are assuming the trust include economic setbacks and inconsistancies that affect our Arab region and reduce the assistance reaching the Jordanian economy. This makes your Cabinet dutybound to exert wise efforts to ward off the negative factors that may affect our developing economy. The stability of the Jordanian economy is an indivisible part of our steadfastness in facing the challenges and building the future.

Jordan has scored outstanding achievements in the spheres of industry and construction. The country has greatly progressed in the field of electrification, road construction, schools, hospitals, and institutes for higher education. The time has come for us to benefit from these achievements by concentrating on efficient performance and quality so that we can sustain our progress and development.

In order to safeguard the strength of this country, every citizen who is able to participate should offer his sincere efforts for building this country. Every citizen must feel that his future and that of his sons is secure.

We must also do our best to ward off poverty from the citizen and meet his basic requirements in terms of food, housing, and education. We must develop the mental and physical health of the individual and enhance his mental abilities through useful education, because the individual remains the asset of the nation and the source of its strength.

May God preserve you and guide your steps.

Awaiting the names of your colleagues, I assure you of my support, trust, and love. I ask Almighty God to grant you success and to fulfill all of our beloved Jordan's aspirations for dignity, glory, and victory. Peace be upon you.

Amman, 10 January 1984

'Ubaydat Response

JN102122 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1820 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Ahmad 'Ubaydat has sent the following letter to His Majesty King Husayn in reply to his majesty's letter of designation:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your Majesty King Husayn the exalted, I e: tend to your exalted office my great respect and sincere loyalty and love.

I have received with deep pride, respect, and thanks your royal letter in which you entrusted me to have the honor of shouldering the responsibility under your wise leadership during this delicate phase in the life of our nation and region. As I pray to God to be equal to your precious trust in me, I look toward your exalted office in order to derive insistence and determination and to be guided by your generous directives that enable us to carry this historc burden in order to serve this dear homeland, which you embody as its living message.

Your Majesty, we pledge to exert every effort to uphold this trust with you and with the sons of our homeland with loyalty and sincere action. This phase, as you have directed us, requires true sacrifice and continued action in order to strengthen national unity and to develop our valiant Armed Forces by ensuring that they have all resources so that they can reach a high standard of preparation, equipment, training, and ability in order to keep Jordan a fortified bastion against all the attempts to encroach on the tranquillity of its citizens and its security and stability.

The team with whom I will work will endeavor to achieve the accomplishments that are stressed in the royal designation letter so that Jordan can reach the aspired comprehensive and balanced development, the good yields of which will reach all citizens in all their places of residence and will ensure all the elements that guarantee our continued contentment in our country both now and in the future. This can be achieved by beginning with the individual, his education, and throught — within well-studied programs and practical plans until all opportunities for loyal participation can be made available to everybody.

Your Majesty, the return of parliamentary life is the best indication of your royal trend toward having all citizens participate in making the future through the responsible practice of democracy, the foundation of which you have strengthened. We will not relinquish the pioneering role that Jordan has selected, under your leadership, in all Arab and international arenas. As you have stressed, we will meet Jordan's Arab obligations and commitments — which Jordan has never failed to meet.

The Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, with its ties and uniqueness, will remain our continuing objective, taking into consideration the joint destiny that links our two peoples. We will always work with the brothers on all international levels in order to support the rights of the Palestinian people in their territory and homeland, in coordination and cooperation with the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

As I submit to you the names of my colleague ministers who will join me in shouldering the trust, I kindly ask Your Majesty to issue a royal decree to form the Cabinet. May God save you and guide you in your steps. May God also keep Jordan strong and invulnerable under your historic leadership. God always fulfills wishes and prayers.

[Signed] Your loyal servant Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Amman, 10 January 1984

Cabinet Sworn In

JN102041 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1829 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The Cabinet formation ceremony was held today at King Husayn Medical Center, where Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the ministers were sworn in before His Majesty King Husayn and in the presence of Crown Prince Hasan and Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court.

New Prime Minister Interviewed

JN110814 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Jan 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat has announced that His Majesty King Husayn will open Parliament's ordinary session with a speech from the throne on Monday.

In an interview with *SAWT ASH-SHA'B*, 'Ubaydat stressed that his Cabinet will present a comprehensive policy statement on the basis of which it will request a vote of confidence from Parliament.

In his first press statement after assuming the post of prime minister, 'Ubaydat said the government will entrench firm bases of cooperation with the various public sectors in the interest of the homeland and the citizen.

The prime minister added that the government's approach toward the sons of the one homeland in their various positions is sincere in order to promote and bolster the people's participation in achieving the glorious objectives to which we all aspire.

The prime minister added: To stress what was included in the government's reply to the royal letter of designation, the government is eager to make the positive gains of Jordan's ambitious development plans reach citizens in all parts of Jordan.

The prime minister said that the government will promote and bolster democratic dialogue with responsible citizens, especially since all seek to build this homeland and continue to develop its institutions. He said: The coming days, God willing, will witness new and effective steps in this regard and we hope that the various information media will assume responsibility for paving the way for these steps in accordance with a practical and studied plan that we hope will succeed.

Regarding relations with fraternal Arab states, the prime minister stressed that the government will promote and strengthen fraternal relations with these states to restore Arab soldiarity that will enable the Arab nation to strongly confront the challenges.

He added: In this regard, we are inspired by the royal letter of designation concerning the promotion and bolstering of Arab soldiarity, given that it is a practical formula that will restore credibility and seriousness to Arab action and enable us to exploit its resources and means of strength in the best possible manner. We will also spare no effort to develop the method of decision-making at the Arab League to grant our nation flexibility to move freely.

Asked about the relationship between the government and the House of Representatives, the prime minister said: This relationship is important and noble and the government, God willing, will promote this relationship out of its commitment to constitutional principles and in accordance with His Majesty King Hsuayn's instructions in the royal letter of designation. The government will implement the provisions of the royal letter of designation regarding the establishment and continuation of this noble relationship in the interest of Jordan and its basic issues, foremost being the Palestinian question.

The prime minister concluded: This government has assumed responsibility with the restoration of the parliamentary life. It hopes that this return to parliamentary life will be support for it to perform its task in the best possible manner and to achieve the aspirations of every citizen of the one Jordanian family, God willing.

Husayn Hospitalized for Ulcer Treatment
JN101844 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's private physician has stated the following: His Majesty King Husayn was hospitalized in the Al-Husayn Medical Center yesterday evening, Monday, 9 January 1984. As a result of the required medical tests, it has been determined that his majesty suffers from a bleeding ulcer in his digestive system that makes it necessary to keep him in the hospital for several days of treatment. His Majesty King Husayn's condition is satisfactory and stable. Praise be to God, he is recovering.

King To Head Islamic Summit Delegation
JN110958 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 Jan 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn will leave Amman for Morocco at the beginning of next week to head Jordan's delegation to the fourth Islamic summit that will be held there next Monday.

The Jordanian delegation will present four working papers to the summit. These working papers outline an Islamic strategy to confront the Zionist enemy's designs in the occupied Arab territories. They deal with Israel's settlement policy and its dangers to the land, of which more than 50 per cent has been confiscated, and to the people, thousands of whom have been expelled within the framework of Judaizing the occupied Arab territories; the hostile sea-to-sea canal; the shifting of the Palestinian camps to the Jordan valley in preparation for expelling them from the occupied homeland; and the occupation authorities' measures applying their laws over the occupied West Bank.

The Jordanian delegation will focus on the importance of taking practical steps and applying the resolutions of previous Islamic summits to save the land and the kinfolk and to provide the sons of our people with the means of steadfastness to enable them to confront the enemy's designs, given that the deteriorating situation allows no latitude for wasting time. The Jordanian delegation will also stress the importance of ending the Iraq-Iran war, which wastes Muslim blood and exhausts Isalmic potentials and serves only our enemies.

His majesty is expexted to meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and a number of the leaders of Islamic states prior to the summit in order to support positive efforts, coordinate stands, and create a proper atmosphere which will result in a successful Islamic summit — a summit that deals with very important and serious issues of concern to the Islamic world.

Husayn, Queen Nur To Visit India in Jan
JN101250 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — A responsible source at the Royal Hashemite Court has announced that Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur will pay an official visit to India the last week of January. The visit comes at the invitation of Indian President Zail Singh and will last for several days.

Extraordinary Session of Parliament Ends
JN100823 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* has learned that a royal decree has been issued closing Parliament's extraordinary session as of yesterday.

Royal Decree Approves Article 73 Amendment
JN110825 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — A royal decree has been issued approving the decision of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding the amendment of Article 73 of the Jordanian Constitution, which was approved during Parliament's extraordinary session the day before yesterday.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Departs 10 Jan

JN101509 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 10 Jan (PETRA) — The U.S. congressional delegation left Amman this morning following a visit of a few days to Jordan during which the members met with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, and a number of senior officials. The delegation was seen off by a number of high-ranking officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Senate President Receives PRC Delegation

JN101456 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 10 Jan (PETRA) — Senate President Ahmad at-Tarawinah and a number of Senate members met this morning with the PRC delegation led by Wang Renzhong, vice chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee. During the meeting, they reviewed the good relations between the two countries and between the PRC congress and the Jordanian Senate. They also reviewed the situation in the Arab region.

The PRC delegation showed understanding of Arab issues, particularly the Palestine question. It affirmed the PRC's support for Arab rights on all international levels. The PRC delegation praised King Husayn's wise policy and Jordan's construction and economic progress.

Meeting With Information Minister

JN101555 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 10 Jan (PETRA) — Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah received the PRC National People's Congress delegation which is currently visiting Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian Senate this morning. During the meeting, Abu 'Awdah reviewed the stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict and developments in the Palestine question. He explained the implications of Israel's expansionist plans, which are being implemented through a series of procedures and practices the foremost of which is the settlement policy — a policy aimed at annexing the land after evicting its legitimate Arab owners.

Abu 'Awdah also explained Israel's intransigent stand toward all of the efforts to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East. He criticized the forces that support Israel and enable it to adhere to its intransigent stand and to pursue its aggressive policy.

Wang Renshong, head of the PRC delegation, praised Jordanian- PRC relations and spoke about the Middle East conflict, alluding to efforts to achieve a just settlement according to which the Palestinian people can regain their legitimate rights. He expressed his country's support for the Fes summit resolutions, which aim at strengthening Arab solidarity and supporting the Palestinian people's rights. He also expressed his appreciation for Jordan's stand toward bolstering Arab solidarity. He expressed hope that a halt to the Iraqi-Iranian war will be reached.

Senate member Dr Hazim Nusaybah attended the meeting.

Husayn Receives Giscard d'Estaing 9 Jan

JN100832 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 10 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn yesterday received former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who is currently visiting Jordan.

During the meeting, they reviewed the current Arab situation and developments in the Palestinian question.

Giscard arrived in Amman the day before yesterday for a visit that will last several days.

Political Committee Meets at Presidential Palace

NC101237 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Dispatch by Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — live]

[Text] The Higher Liaison body's Political Committee held its periodic meeting today at the Presidential Palace under the chairmanship of Dr Elie Salim, foreign and expatriates affairs minister. The meeting was attended by the British and Italian ambassadors, the U.S. and French charge d'affaires, Coordinator General Staff Major General Habib Faris, the commanders of the Multinational Force, and the Lebanese officers team.

At the outset, the chief of the Operations Room at the Presidential Palace presented a report on the security situation in the country, noting the recent shelling on the Army and residential areas. He then reviewed the incidents south of the Al-Awwali Bridge and the daily harrassment of citizens in Sidon and at the Al-Awwali Bridge.

Minister Salim then briefed the conferees on the current political atmosphere and the constant efforts for implementation of the security plan in the near future. He also noted his fruitful talks in Saudi Arabia.

Maj Gen Faris spoke of the future role of the Multinational Force within the framework of the future deployment of the Army and Internal Security Forces in the implementation of the security plan.

Reportage on Security Plan Developments

Al-Wazzan: Government Seeks Progress

NC101349 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The Committee for the Development of Beirut's Southern Suburb, which met today with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, concluded its meeting a short time ago. Prime Minister al-Wazzan later said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Wazzan] It is true that the committee has been set up for the development of the southern suburb, but its meeting was not only for the sake of the suburb because the Cabinet decided at its recent session that relief should be accorded all Lebanese areas which have been scenes of recent incidents so that the necessary services can be extended to them, be it in the fields of telephone communication, roads, electric power, or water, or in the field of development in general.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, there has been much talk about the security plan and the problems facing its implementation. Today you met with the foreign minister who returned from Riyadh. What information can you provide in this respect?

[Al-Wazzan] There has been much talk in this respect. Naturally, whatever is linked to the security plan is of a military or security nature, and therefore may contain some aspects which would not be useful, or may even be harmful to discuss. However, everyone must rest assured that the Lebanese Government is earnestly trying to eliminate all obstacles and overcome all problems so that the security plan can be implemented. The stability of security is a beginning to the stability of many matters of concern to citizens. We do not want to speculate, or make promises in this respect, but I sincerely say that we are not losing a moment to implement the plan, which will relax the citizens and undoubtedly be an important step toward security and stability in the country. If the plan now includes the mountain, Beirut, and its suburb, it will undoubtedly in the future include all those Lebanese areas where the Lebanese authority is not present now.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is the plan going to be declared by the government, the Cabinet, or several parties?

[Al-Wazzan] The citizen is not concerned about who will declare the plan. Rather, the citizen wants to see the plan implemented in the field. I believe that our interest must be turned in this direction.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, what is the atmosphere in respect of the second round of the National Dialogue?

[Al-Wazzan] Preparations and arrangements are underway in this respect. On our part, as an authority, we are eager to achieve this soon because it will relax the citizens and all those concerned who are sincerely working in this direction. There is no doubt that the Syrian and Saudi sides deserve our thanks for their assistance to achieve further progress in this respect. Maybe the results Minister Salim brought from his meeting in Riyadh — although not all the results we expected — will at least be useful strides.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is there an intention by the government to file a complaint against the Israeli practices?

[Al-Wazzan] The contacts with the international side and the U.S. side, which can influence Israel, are not over yet. The contacts will be held daily and a memo has been circulated to various states dealing with the Israeli behavior and inhuman practices which remind us of wornout methods which we are resisting. There is an appropriate time for everything. I believe the determination of the Lebanese people and the government representing the will of the Lebanese in this respect will inevitably check Israel and ultimately make it abide by the rights of Lebanon, citizens, and human rights. [end recording]

Junblatt, Front Delay Plan

NC110831 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The integral security plan for Beirut's southern suburb and the mountain, long awaited by the citizens so as to put an end to the security instability in those areas, appears to be requiring further contacts. Its implementation may be delayed in spite of reports that its implementation was a matter of hours. The reason for the delay, as well-informed sources say, is due to certain stances which emerged in the last few hours and which surprised the political circles following the current efforts for ensuring the security plan's implementation and success.

These stances include the National Salvation Front's statement — after its meeting in Damascus under the chairmanship of Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt — that any talk of a security plan in Lebanon or a resumption of the National Reconciliation Dialogue in Geneva is a cover-up for a plan for hegemony over Lebanon.

In its statement, which was carried by *REUTER*, the Front emphasized the need to work toward a comprehensive political solution that would, as it said, affirm the political factors for safeguarding Lebanon's Arabism, unity, liberation, and democratic development. The Front presented certain demands it raised some months ago, including abolishing the 17 May agreement, not deploying the Army in any security mission, and agreeing on a political reform program. The Front did not neglect to denounce Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, saying it has caused a serious deviation in the Palestinian leadership's course and warning against its consequences.

Representatives of Sulayman Franjiyah and Rashid Karami did not attend the Damascus meeting. It is known that the Amal movement is not a member of the Front, but there is political coordination with the movement.

We note here that an envoy of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will visit former President Franjiyah in Zgharta this morning and that another envoy may visit former Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Tripoli.

The Cabinet will hold its weekly session today to review the situation, the new factors regarding the security plan, and the outcome of the Riyadh talks between Ministers Salim, Khaddam, and Al-Faysal.

The Front's statement, which was followed by a statement by Walid Junblatt in Damascus, falls within the same framework of reservations over the declaration of the security plan. The two statements made observers wonder about the significance of this stance, because contacts for the security plan's implementation had progressed to the extent that some sources had expected its implementation within 48 hours. The observers note certain contradictions between previously declared stances and reality. Some parties had previously called for the speedy implementation of the plan after having approved its details. The same parties now regard the plan as having been drawn up for implementing a hegemonic plan. They had previously demanded a solution to political questions, but in fact are now trying to prevent the means for achieving — through either the Geneva conference or a government including all parties — the expected national reconciliation. In wonde ing about the significance of the National Salvation Front's l .est stand, the observers add that while an agreement on achie ing a political reform program would realize a solution to pending problems, those demanding this program are preventing the restoration of security and stability in the disturbed areas so that the reform can be carried out in a calm atmosphere. The same parties have likewise raised questions over the Army's deployment in any security mission and thereby — the observers say — are preventing the utilization of the only existing means of bringing about the citizens' security and safety. One must wonder as to how the situation has changed from demands for speeding up the security plan's implementation and charges that the state was stalling and procrastinating to saying that a hegemonic plan lies behind the security plan that had been previously approved of. All these and other questions are raised by the ordinary citizens with great pain, because whenever hope appears on the horizon, stances emerge to draw the issue backward. Is it permissible after all that has happened and is happening for these parties to continue with such stances that have no logical or objective explanation?

Tripartite Meeting in Casablanca

NC111032 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Diplomatic sources today confirmed that a tripartite meeting between the foreign ministers of Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia will be held this coming Monday in Casablanca, Morocco, where the Islamic summit will convene. They will resume the discussion of subjects raised at the Riyadh meeting.

The sources noted that U.S. presidential envoy Donald Rumsfeld will visit Damascus in the next 2 days, where he will meet with Foreign Minister Khaddam for talks preceding the tripartite ministerial meeting in Morocco. The sources affirmed that Saudi Arabia is showing serious interest in the implementation of the security plan and in tackling the problems still hindering it. The sources added that Lebanese Ambassador to Morocco Dr 'Adil Isma'il will lead Lebanon's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers' meeting tomorrow in Casablanca to draw up the agenda of the Islamic summit, which begins on 16 January.

Beirut Radio Reports Rumsfeld's Arrival

NC111049 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. presidential envoy Donald Rumsfeld today arrived in Beirut at 1100 aboard a special plane.

Al-Jumayyil Envoy Meets Franjiyah in Zgharta

NC111218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] President al-Jumayyil today delegated his adviser, Dr Wadi' Haddad, to Zgharta, where he met at 1210 with former President Sulayman Franjiyah in the presence of Franjiyah's son Robert. They reviewed the developments and question of the security plan.

Ministerial Committee Meets Franjiyah, Karami

NC061832 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Excerpts] A ministerial committee has ended its mission in Tripoli. The committee, which began its mission before noon today, surveyed the damage and requirements of the city. The committee then called on Former President Sulayman Franjiyah and Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami and discussed with them the situation in the north in wake of the recent events.

Al-Wazzan, 'Uthman Review Security Situation
NC110800 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Clashes with shells and various types of weapons have been taking place in Al-Matahin, Ash-Shiyah [Beirut area] since 0915 today. The security situation is tense in Khaldah. Several shells landed this morning in the area followed by sniper fire. Light weapons fire was exchanged between Ash-Shuwayfat and the Science College area and between Al-'Amrusiyah and Hayy as-Sullum, and there was sniper fire between Al-Jiyah and Barja.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met this morning with Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, acting director general of the Internal Security Forces, with whom he reviewed the security situation and developments.

Security Committee Arranges Cease-Fire 11 Jan
NC111038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1027 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] A cease-fire agreement was reached a short while ago and will become effective at 1230. This was achieved by the Security Arrangements Committee, which met in the presence of all its members at its headquarters at the 'Awdah Bank Building between Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat. The cease-fire will cover the mountain areas and Beirut's southern suburb.

Israelis Reportedly Raiding Sidon Area
NC101930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] According to security sources, the areas of 'Aramun and Khaldah came under automatic weapons and mortar fire. The security sources added that Israeli forces tonight fired at Mustafa al- Iskafi, a 14-year-old handicapped boy. Israeli forces were still raiding the villa construction area in Sidon this evening.

VOL on Syrian, Libyan Supplies to Dissidents
NC101241 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Information available to the Voice of Lebanon indicates that Syria has supplied dissident Palestinians and Junblattists with 60 tons of munitions for various types of weapons. Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, Libya's number two man, had said in Damascus that his country will provide the Lebanese opposition and Palestinian revolution with the necessary weapons.

Qulaylat Discusses Developments With CSSR Envoy
NC101430 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat today received at the headquarters of the Nasirite Independent Movement Vavlav Pizinger, Czechoslovak ambassador to Lebanon. The developments in the Lebanese area and their effect on the international and regional conflicts were reviewed at the meeting. The ambassador reiterated his government's position on the need for the immediate withdrawal of the Zionist enemy.

Bern Agrees To Watch Lebanese Interests in Iran
NC101241 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] At Lebanon's request, the Swiss Foreign Ministry has agreed that its embassy in Tehran represent Lebanese interests in Iran as of today. Lebanon severed its diplomatic relations with Iran on 23 November after the attacks and practices carried out by armed Iranians in Lebanon.

RPG Shells Fired at French Embassy, No Casualties
NC101915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] A security source reports that two RPG shells were fired at the French Embassy from a building facing it. There were no casualties and only material damage was sustained. Personnel from the Army and French contingent cordoned the area in search of the perpetrators.

French Forces Fired On
NC102030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Gunmen in an unidentified car fired two RPG shells at positions of the French forces and Lebanese Army near Burj al-Murr. This was followed by an exchange of automatic weapons fire. There were only material losses in both incidents.

Junblatt Chairs Meeting on Lebanon Situation

JN102201 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The National Council of the Lebanese National Salvation Front met in Damascus today under Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP]. The meeting was attended by Comrades 'Asim Qansouh, regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon, and 'Abdallah al-Amin, assistant regional secretary of the party in Lebanon. The meeting was also attended by In'am Ra'd, leader of the Syrian National Social Party; George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party; and Riyad Ra'd, member of the PSP.

During the meeting, the Council discussed the political and security developments in the Lebanese arena and issued the following statement: The participants in the meeting have discussed the political and security situation and the latest developments that the Lebanese arena has witnessed since the Geneva conference was convened.

Walid Junblatt presented a detailed briefing on the political developments and the contacts that were held during the past phase. Those attending also agreed on the need to work for a comprehensive political solution that stresses the political principles that will lead to Lebanon's Arabism, unity, liberation, and democratic development so that the logic of the Phalangist hegemony over the government can be completely and comprehensively removed through the following phases:

1. Cancelling the 17 May agreement.

2. Cancelling all of the decrees, laws, appointments, and structures that have affirmed the Phalangist hegemony over the government.

3. Preventing the use of the Army in any internal security mission before a law is enacted making the Army a nationalist one that is acceptable to all Lebanese. This army also should express their will in freedom and independence.

4. Agreeing on a program for political reform that will end all forms of hegemony.

The meeting also held the Phalangist Party and its militias as well as the army forces responsible for the failure to implement the security plan and to reconvene the Geneva conference on the Lebanese national dialogue.

The meeting also discussed the developments in the Palestinian arena, especially after Yasir 'Arafat's visit to the Egyptian regime, a visit that created a serious deviation in the Palestinian leadership's method. The meeting also condemned that visit and deviation and warned of its consequences at the Arab and Palestinian levels. They reaffirmed their solidarity with the Palestinian revolution and its just struggle to liberate its homeland.

AL-BA'TH on 'Arafat, Husayn Common Objectives

JN111018 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Press review]

[Text] In a comment in its "Opinion" column under the headline ""Arafat-Husayn, Joint Steps and Common Objectives," *AL-BA'TH* writes about the preparations 'Arafat and Husayn are making to enter into negotiations with the Zionist entity on the basis of the Reagan plan.

The paper says: The real objectives of the 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting and King Husayn's sudden measures in recalling the Jordanian Parliament, amending the constitution, and forming a Jordanian-Palestinian government are becoming clear day byday. A great deal has been said about these measures. However, the mere knowledge of the identities of those who backed the 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting and the king's measures is enough to show that what has been taking place since the first day of the Zionist-U.S. invasion of Lebanon has been in accordance with a general plan whose precise objective is to achieve what we are witnessing today. The partners in this plan have been, all this time, carrying out the clauses of the plan in a rather astonishing manner. The best proof of this is that 'Arafat and his clique plotted with the Camp David partners against the revolution to turn their departure from Beirut into a victory. Everyone knows that the departure of the resistance from Beirut in the manner that it did was the beginning of a political phase that 'Arafat and his clique had prepared by alienating themselves from the combatant Arab forces. We and the others know what used to be said in the closed meetings 'Arafat held before and after the invasion. 'Arafat's calls for laying down arms and turning to the proposed political solutions are well known. It is no longer a secret to anyone that 'Arafat had resorted to the policy of frustrating certain Palestinian leaders, and unfortunately, has succeeded in achieving some of his objectives. Proof of this lies in the fact that those Palestinian leaders agreed to his line. However, these are only a handful of people, who do not represent the Palestinian people, who have sacrificed tens of thousands of their sons for the sake of gaining their full rights.

AL-BA'TH continues: Now that King Husayn has carried out his measures, the most serious part of the plot will be if 'Arafat, Husayn and the Camp David partners succeed in enforcing their solution on the Palestinian people. The Jordanian king is now trying, with the full agreement of 'Arafat, to negotiate with Israel under the slogan that the West Bank representatives agree to these negotiations. Israel, which is suffering from an acute economic crisis threatening its very existence, has found in Husayn's move an opportunity to overcome its crises. Enemy Prime Minister Shamir was clear the day before yesterday when he called on King Husayn to negotiate on the basis of the Camp David accords and autonomy for the West Bank. This is because Shamir announced that he will continue to occupy the West Bank. All that the Zionists want from the negotiations is to entrench the present fait accompli, while giving some minor responsibilities to administrative councils in the West Bank, which will exercise no authority.

The paper concludes: A quick glance at what the officials in the West are repeating, gives us an idea of the enormous plot which is being concocted against the Palestinian people and the Palestine question, the central Arab issue. British minister Howe, who yesterday concluded his visit to the Egyptian regime, said verbatim in his talk on the Palestinian homeland: There are other alternatives. It seems that the U.S. military concentrations in occupied Palestine intend to guarantee the accomplishment of what Yasir 'Arafat, Husayn, and Mubarak are undertaking.

Al-Ahmar Cables Cuban CP on Revolution

JN101346 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has sent a congratulatory cable to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba on the 25th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution's victory. The following is the text of the cable: Dear comrades. I am pleased to send to you on behalf of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party our warmest congratulations on the 25th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban Revolution, which was the fruit of a long struggle waged by the friendly Cuban people under the leadership of Comrade Fidel Castro. On this occasion, we express our strong solidarity with your party and people in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and for the sake of realizing further success and victory for your friendly people in building their new society. We also express our satisfaction with the continued development of relations between our two parties and peoples and their joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reactionaries, and for the sake of bolstering world peace, based on justice, in the various regions of the world. Please accept our sincerest comradely greetings.

Briefs

Syrian Highway to Jordan — Kuwait, 9 Jan 84 (OPECNA) — The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development has signed a loan agreement for 30.7 million dollars with Syria for the construction of a 104 km highway from Damascus to the Jordanian border. The new highway, linking the capital with the border town of Alsanamain [name as received], will expand transportation needs over the next 30 years and serve the southern part of Syria which is rich in agriculture and tourism potential. The highway would eventually facilitate the flow of transit trade to states in the Gulf region. Mohammed Imady [name as received], chairman and director general of the fund, who signed the agreement, said the highway would be a link in the Arab road network and an essential part of the Amman-Damascus-Beirut autoway. Last year, the fund lent Jordan 13.6 million dollars to help it complete its part of the project. Syria's cost for the project is 126.2 million dollars, with completion expected in 1988. [Text] [Vienna OPECNA in English 1205 GMT 9 Jan 84 LD]

Knesset Hears 'Classified' IDF Report on Lebanon

TA110704 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] A document prepared by the IDF General Staff's Planning Branch recommends that the IDF be evacuated from Lebanon as soon as possible. The document states that we should tolerate continued Syrian presence in Lebanon and begin consolidating security arrangements in southern Lebanon. Yesterday, MK Shulamit Aloni read out chapters of the classified document in the Knesset plenum. Our correspondent Hayim Zissovitz reports.

[Begin recording] [Zissovitz] Yesterday the Knesset discussed the IDF's continued stay in Lebanon. The debate was long and relatively quiet. The quiet, however, was interrupted by Alignment MK Shulamit Aloni, who read out to her colleagues passages from a document prepared by the General Staff's Planning Branch which examined the options currently open to Israel on the IDF's position in Lebanon. The authors of the document believe that there is no political or military way to compel the Syrians to leave Lebanon and therefore their continued presence should be tolerated.

[Aloni] All recommendations reiterate that everything should be done to accelerate the exit from Lebanon. The control over southern Lebanon, including the area south of the Az-Zahrani River, not only the area of the Al-Awwali River, will constitute a threat because of the hostile population there.

[Zissovitz] The authors of the report are also trying to direct efforts toward consolidating security arrangements in southern Lebanon, such as observation [tatzpiyot] and early warning systems, arrangements which will permit a gradual IDF exit in the western sector. When this stage is completed, the IDF will have to consider also the exit of forces from the eastern sector, if Syria reveals willingness to reach an agreement or understanding with Israel. [end recording]

Details of IDF Report

TA110721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The Alignment's Shulamit Aloni showed the Knesset a document said to be from the army's Planning Division yesterday which recommends that the Israeli army be evacuated from Lebanon as soon as possible. The document says there is no chance of getting the Syrians out of Lebanon and, therefore, Israel's policy toward Damascus should be reconsidered — this because Syria is the key to a solution in Lebanon. But the document stressed that the withdrawal from Lebanon should depend on guarenteeing the security of Israel's northern settlements against terrorist attacks; and, at the same time, Syria should be prevented from obtaining any strategic advantages.

After Shulamit Aloni read parts of the document from the Knesset rostrum a debate ensued on whether it was legal to quote from a secret army document. Aloni responded by saying that in order to stop bloodshed a Knesset member is committed to take advantage of his immunity.

Labor MP on Report

NC102132 Paris AFP in English 2030 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem, Jan 10 (AFP) — An Israeli Labour MP today alleged the existence of a secret report by the Israeli General Staff calling for a withdrawal by the Israeli army from southern Lebanon regardless of whether the Syrian Army left Lebanese territory.

The report, prepared by the General Staff's planning department, concluded that it was impossible to force the Syrian troops to leave Lebanon, and that Syria was the "key" to any solution to the Lebanese conflict, according to MP Shulamit Aloni.

Mrs Aloni said that an Israeli withdrawal would have to be accompanied by a "defensive system" being set up in southern Lebanon, currently under Israeli occupation.

The report said the system would have a two-fold aim: to prevent attacks on the civilian population in northern Israel from Lebanon and to prevent the Syrian Army from taking over strategic advantages in the region evacuated by the Israeli Army. The information divulged by Mrs Aloni corresponded to reports from military sources that had been circulating during the week.

Arens: Lebanon Policy Unaffected by Budget Cuts

TA101149 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Under the Cabinet plan all ministries will have to trim their budgets by 9 percent. Reporter Vivien Royston asked the defense minister how his ministry would manage the cuts.

[Begin recording] [Arens] That's a question that I asked myself a few months ago, before we went to work on the subject, and we're doing it. It's a painful and difficult process. It means procuring less equipment than we had in mind. It means having less people in the army than we thought we would have wanted to do. It means cutting corners in various places, and finally coming up with a cut of 9 percent.

[Royston] Is it likely to affect our policy in southern Lebanon?

[Arens] No, it will not limit our policy options. That was the basic constraint that we set for ourselves, that the cuts be such that our policy options not be limited. [end recording]

IDF Soldier Slightly Wounded in S. Lebanon

TA101524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] An IDF soldier sustained slight injuries in Lebanon today, about 5 km south of the Az-Zahrani. The IDF spokesman reports that an explosive charge blew up near an IDF convoy. Israeli forces are searching the area.

HA'ARETZ Calls for Unilateral Withdrawal

TA081027 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Jan 84 p 7

[Commentary by Gid'on Samet: "Initiating Instead of Getting Dragged Behind"]

[Text] It is an open and seemingly bizarre secret that the military level has been forced to pressure the government to deploy along a southernmost line in Lebanon — usually armies push forward rather than backward. However, it is not the recommendation that is bizarre — the army's training program and resources are being adversely affected, and the number of casualties continues to mount with each passing week in Lebanon — but the fact that the political level hesitates to embrace it.

One of the reasons for this cannot be dismissed, particularly in view of the fact that this reason is embraced by the rather pragmatic Shamir-Arens due. At a time of an at least declared understanding with the United States, the government is not prepared to make a move against the explicit U.S. desire to delay the Israeli withdrawal. Another important reason is that an accelerated evacuation would lead to an increase in terrorist attacks in the south, and would expose the government to the old argument that the Lebanese war is ending under worse circumstances than those it began with.

The uniqueness of these two reasons is that we have heard them in the past and their futility can easily be examined in previous circumstances. The United States also pressured Israel not to withdraw to the current line. This appeal was heeded, but then Israel went ahead with a lightning operation, that was nevertheless preceded by some hesitation. Of course, our relations with the Americans were in no way harmed, and the IDF was spared the crossfire between Christians and Druze in the Ash-Shuf area. (Those who insist on confusing the fact for the effect should be told that the fighting would have erupted even if we had obstinately stayed put. However, the withdrawal to the Al-Awwali River, rather than further south, was at the time based on the second reason: The IDF's presence is necessary to prevent an increase in acts of terror.)

It is becoming increasingly clear that this has not been the case so far. On the contrary, our presence in southern Lebanon has inflamed the Shi'ite population to an unprecedented degree. As senior commanders in the area phrase it, instead of the rice they threw at us at the beginning, we began to get bullets. A line that cost $30 million to build at a time of serious economic distress has proved inefficient. It has not prevented infiltration simply because the terrorists were already within its boundaries; and those who wanted to join them could do so easily by crossing the bridges.

When the IDF noticed the dear price it had paid and tried to block the bridges, it ran into a more serious difficulty: Normal life in the south was affected and the unrest exacerbated. It is enough to occasionally look at the television — showing tense Israeli youths, fearing for their lives, patrolling in Sidon and along the southern axes — to once again get the impression that our police mission there is senseless and futile. Not only has this mission not prevented terrorism, it has exacerbated terrorism by becoming another excuse for inciting the population.

Our U.S. motive is lame and ruthless, both to us and the Americans. The justification for heeding the fickle and inconsistent U.S. considerations must be measured — and one should not forget this — by the number of both our and their casualties, which already number several hundred. Still, meeting the United States half way is called for by political considerations: How can we cut the ground out from under President Reagan's feet by withdrawing at a time when he is resisting enormous internal pressure to bring his men back home?

This consideration can no longer be our guiding principle. The only guideline for continuing our military presence in Lebanon should be the extent to which our presence there contributes to achieving our objectives, one of which is (Defense Minister Arens placed it at the top of the list) to save human lives. Unless somebody says otherwise, not one of our objectives in Lebanon is to preserve our relations with Washington. As for the second objective, that of strengthening Al-Jumayyil — which does not represent a matter of principle for us — hopes have vanished that with the help of foreign guns he can realize the utopian goal of establishing a strong central government that would rule the whole of Lebanon.

A related reason is given for our continued presence: To give time to the Lebanese Army to put its act together and fill the vacuum that would be created. However, past experience shows there was no instance in which the preparation of the Lebanese Army preceded a withdrawal. On the contrary, the withdrawal created pressure that prodded the Lebanese to take over the evacuated areas.

At the beginning of the war, Israel always took the initiative in Lebanon. However, it lost this initiative somewhere along the way, precisely at a time when its objective, that of reducing its involvement, became positive. Israel's last independent move was its withdrawal to the Al-Awwali line. Now the United States is steering the moves, the last of which is its special effort to reach an understanding with Syria. Only a person oblivious to internal pressures in the United States could hope that Washington will hesitate to change its approach once again and urge Israel to withdraw when this suits its diplomatic moves. The United States has done this in the past, during the period of its illusory understanding with Syria, when it asked for a timetable for a full Israeli withdrawal in those remote days of Philip Habib.

Now that Israel has learned all these lessons, it must put an end to what may turn out to be a prolonged process of getting dragged along behind U.S.-Syrian contacts. Israel would be well advised to prevent the inevitable so as not to lose any more human lives and not to prolong the harm caused to the IDF's working procedures.

In any event, we cannot hope for perfect arrangements in southern Lebanon. Some kind of mobile Israeli presence will be needed there for quite some time. A withdrawal now should not be seen as a nightmare in which the south is abandoned to assassins and our relations with the Americans are exposed to an uncalculated danger. Our continued massive presence in Lebanon should be seen as a nightmare. The consequences of a unilateral withdrawal now cannot be any worse than prolonging the current situation.

Committee Decides on 58 Billion Shekel Budget Cut

TA110614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] A short while ago the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs unanimously decided to cut 58 billion shekels from the 1984 budget, which is almost the entire amount demanded by the Finance Ministry. The specifics as they affect each ministry were discussed in detail and priorities were established. The discussions lasted 12 hours and ended a short while ago. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik says that the decision requires the Cabinet's approval and that deliberations are still pending between the Finance Ministry and the other ministries, especially the Education and Defense Ministries whose representatives did not attend the meeting.

As for the Defense Ministry, a cut of 12 billion shekels has been decided, while a cut of about 5 billion shekels has been determined for the Education Ministry. Among other things it was also decided that the settlements and project renewal budgets will be cut like all other categories. At the same time, the proposal to cancel free high school education has apparently been removed from the agenda.

Health Minister Eli'ezer Shostak told our correspondent that the cut in his ministry's budget, even if it is less than 9 percent, will harm everyone in Israel because the cut in the health services is large.

Following are some of the decisions in other spheres:

It was decided not to enlarge the Knesset building and to drastically decrease the projects for developing and widening roads. The graduated cut in subsidies of basic commodities will continue, contrary to the wish of the finance minister who suggested a speedy and even a single cut of the subsidies down to 25 percent.

Our correspondent has learned that in the course of the discussion Deputy Prime Minister David Levi expressed opposition to a cut in his ministry's budget as originally desired by the Finance Ministry, claiming, among other things, that the Likud is yielding budgetary concessions to other coalition parties. Levi was afraid serious damage will be done to settlement of Judaea and Samaria.

At the end of the discussion the finance minister said that the Cabinet proved it intends to effect the necessary budget cuts. He said that this means a cut in services in the better areas, an increase in what citizens pay for services and a decline in the standards of living.

Welfare Services Not Affected

TA111040 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The social welfare services in Israel will not be decreased due to the cuts in the state budget. This has been learned by our correspondent Mikha'el Miro. The cut in the budget of the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry will total only 4 billion shekels, taken mostly from funds allocated for the National Insurance Institution [NII]. The goal is to cut payments given by the NII to the recipients of various kinds of allowances but to refrain, as much as possible, from taxing those allowances. Those who receive military reserve service compensation may get less money. The Labor and Social Welfare Ministry also will try to consolidate offices whose tasks are similar.

As for the Health Ministry's budget, our correspondent reports that the effect of the cut is still unclear, and this is being examined by the Health Ministry officials.

TAMI Threatens To Leave Coalition Over Budget

TA101928 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] We will begin our newsreel with a report about TAMI's demands which are threatening the government's existence. TAMI leader Aharon Abu-Hatzera told our party affairs correspondent: How will I be able to explain the channelings of funds to settlements to people in the slums at a time when these people are struggling for their physical existence? This is the first time that Abu-Hatzera has made such an explicit statement to the effect that TAMI will quit the coalition if its demands about the welfare budget are not met within 2 weeks. Our party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al reports on the current state of affairs:

The top echelon of the TAMI faction convened this morning at Minister Uzan's office in Jerusalem to hold an urgent consultation about the moves they should take in light of the crisis in the coalition and the economy. During the consultation, Aharon abu-Hatzera rejected the demand of his colleagues to leave the government at once, and persuaded them to give the government another period of grace. In a talk with him about an hour ago, Abu-Hatzera told us: We will not be partners in a coalition that harms and tramples salaried people in Israel. If our proposals are not heeded within approximately 2 weeks, Abu-Hatzera added, we will leave the government. In such an event, there will be no choice other than new elections. Abu-Hatzera went on to say: How will I be able to explain the channeling of funds to settlements to people in the slums at a time when these people are struggling for their physical existence? The government must change its order of priorities, and divide the burden in such a manner that salaried and low-income people are less affected. So much for Abu-Hatzera's remarks.

An atmosphere of crisis is pervading not only TAMI. This is also the case in the Likud and other coalition factions. We have learned this evening that several minister intend to appeal to the prime minister and finance minister not to reject TAMI's demands out of hand. However, it is doubtful that the finance minister will be able to heed this proposal, which would be a precedent for other ministries.

So, the impression prevailing among the coalition factions this evening is that the current crisis has already gotten out of hand, and subsequently its consequences are unpredictable. In this context, we should add that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today asked his deputy, David Levi, to join in the efforts to extricate the coalition from its current crisis.

To sum up, it is expected that the crisis will reach a peak within the next 24 hours. only then will it be possible to know whether the prime minister has managed to navigate his boat through the stormy weather, or whether the crisis is beyond his control. As we have said more than once, everything is possible in Israeli politics.

AFP on TAMI Position

NC182240 Paris AFP in English 2113 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem, Jan 10 (AFP) — The small religious TAMI party today threatened to quit the Israeli coalition government in two weeks if the government demanded over-severe cuts in the budget allotted to social affairs, a parliamentary source said here.

"People in poor districts will not understand why the government is cancelling services essential for their survival, but is continuing to pour millions into settlements" in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, MP Aharon Abu-Hatzera told a meeting of his party, which has three members of parliament.

An inter-ministerial economics committee today discussed budgetary restrictions in the social welfare ministries with the TAMI MP's.

According to deputy employment minister Ben-Tziyon Rubin, a TAMI MP, an agreement is reportedly close following a Treasury decision to reduce the total amount of cuts.

Government, Employers, Histadrut Disagree

TA101758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] All those who had high hopes of the tripartite meeting have been disappointed. Long hours of discussion ended without the representatives of the government, the employers, and the Histadrut reaching an agreement broad enough to enable them to sign a package deal, or even any kind of interim settlement. But, says our economic affairs correspondent, Gadi Sukenik, the Finance Ministry is prepared to take a more flexible stand and look into a request that the civil servants be given a wage increment to offset wage erosion:

[Begin Sukenik recording] At 1000 this morning the heads of the Finance Ministry, the Histadrut, and the employers met in the finance minister's office in Jerusalem. Each side reviewed the problems of the economy, but disagreed on the majority of the issues. At one point in the talks, they were joined, somewhat surprisingly, by Energy Minister Moda'i. He was sent by the prime minister, following an earlier meeting between the two. Not that there is any question of lack of faith in the finance minister, Moda'i said reassuringly, but two heads are better than one.

After several hours of talks, there were neither conclusions nor agreement. The Histadrut secretary general pushed for decisions only on questions of growth and employment. Finally, everybody came out to the waiting journalists with the decision to form joint committees for encouraging exports and resolving the problems of employment. All the participants in today's talks, now over, appeared tired and dissatisfied — Kohen-Orgad, Meshel, and Hurwitz. [end recording]

Kimche-Rumsfeld, Shamir-Armstrong Meetings Noted

TA101840 Jerusalem Domestic Service In English 1800 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Lebanon was on the agenda when U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld met Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche in Jerusalem today. David Essing reports:

[Begin Essing recording] Donald Rumsfeld and David Kimche hashed out the latest developments in a 3-hour nonstop session. They discussed the effort to bring about stability in Lebanon and the evacuation of all foreign forces.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a visiting U.S. senator today that while Israel had not asked for the Marines to be sent to Lebanon, clearly their presence improves stability. Shamir went on to say that the U.S. presence was important because only the United States could bring about peace in the Middle East. The Soviet Union, he said, supplied weapons but not peace solutions.

Shamir also told Senator Armstrong, Republican from Colorado, that he hoped the free trade zone with the United States would materialize. He noted that Israel has a similar agreement with Europe.

Israel's relations with the EEC and Spain were on the agenda when Shamir met Manuel Fraga, the leader of the Spanish opposition party. Fraga says his party favors immediate diplomatic relations with Israel and is working for this goal. He was optimistic about the prospect, based on his talks with Spanish Government leaders. The prime minister replied that Israel did not oppose Spain's entry into the EEC but seeks agreements to protect its agricultural exports. During the meeting, the delicate subject of unemployment came up.

The Spanish visitor noted that 18 percent of his country's workers are now unemployed. Prime Minister Shamir replied that he would not permit unemployment because this endangered aliyah and led to Israelis leaving the country. Shamir made clear that he would do everything in his power to prevent Israeli workers losing their jobs. [end recording]

Shamir Meets Spainish Opposition's Fraga

TA101123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The prime minister has said that we cannot afford to have a situation where there is unemployment in Israel, because we are a poor country and this would be detrimental to aliyah. We likewise cannot afford to have emigration, the prime minister added, because that is not a social problem, but a national problem. We are paying a price for this through inflation. Shamir was speaking to the head of the Spanish opposition.

About an hour ago, the prime minister's office firmly denied front page reports in *MA'ARIV* contending that the budget cuts would result in dismissals and would limit services to the public. The statement by the prime minister's office says that these remarks, attributed to the prime minister, totally contradict what he had actually told the newspaper's reporter, which appears in the body of the report.

MA'ARIV Clarifies Shamir Item

TA110900 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Jan 84 p 1

[MA'ARIV "Clarification"]

[Text] The headline of the front page article yesterday reporting on the exclusive interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir did not accurately reflect the tone of his remarks, and we apologize for this.

In talking about the budget cuts, the prime minister mentioned the need to handle them with caution in order to avoid dismissing employees to the extent possible. However, the headline could have been read to mean that he regards firings as an unavoidable outcome of the budget cuts, but this was far from his intention or the full version of his remarks.

Shamir's Office Denies Cabinet, Coalition Crisis

TA101211 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The prime minister's office denies allegations of a Cabinet and coalition crisis. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav has been told that the prime minister has no intention of holding an emergency debate today with coalition leaders. This morning it was reported that Minister Yosef Burg and MK Avraham Shapira asked the prime minister to hold such a debate. In 2 weeks, coalition parties will discuss withdrawing from the coalition unless a solution can be found to the budget cut problem.

Defense Minister Visits Northern Border Town

TA101933 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says that those who propose that Israel make an unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon are not aware of the danger that could develop there the day after the pullout. Despite the burden that weighs so heavily on us, we must not lose our heads and pull out without security arrangements, he said. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar notes that the defense minister was speaking in the small town of Shelomi, on the northern border.

Arens Addresses Village Heads

TA102127 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens tonight called on the residents of villages in the north to stand up against those demanding an immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon. Israel will not be able to leave Lebanon before security measures ensuring the peace of Galilee are taken. It is therefore necessary to have patience. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that this was said in a meeting between the defense minister and the heads of 70 councils in the north; only two kibbutz representatives who attended demanded immediate withdrawal from Lebanon.

Arens Opposes Unilateral Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA111034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Arens says it is not wise to state that Israel will withdraw from Lebanon even if the Syrians remain there. It is not only we but also the United States and most of the Arab countries who want the Syrians out of Lebanon. Whoever recommends a unilateral withdrawal by Israel does not know what he is talking about.

Minister Arens, nevertheless, emphasized that the IDF will leave Lebanon when we obtain security arrangements and it is around this subject that the effort is now revolving.

The defense minister was speaking before the members of the Zionist General Council. He sharply attacked the Zionist movement and its institutions, saying there is a large disparity between what is expected of them and what they achieve in actual fact. The defense minister expressed support for appointing Sharon as head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department.

More on Lebanon Withdrawal

TA111227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says if Israel pulls out of Lebanon unilaterally, the terrorists will soon be shelling the northern border again. The defense minister was addressing the Zionist General Council in Jerusalem this morning. David Essing has the details:

[Begin recording] [Essing] The defense minister criticized Chief of Staff General Moshe Levi for saying that the Syrian Army's presence in Lebanon did not bother Israel. Arens said that, clearly, the Syrian presence is destructive, and he asked: Is there any sense if Lebanon, the American President and most Western countries demand Syria's evacuation, and someone in Israel talks about their staying on?

Asked about possible West German arms sales to Saudi Arabia, Moshe Arens left no doubt about Israel's opposition:

[Arens] It's a source of great concern to us, and should be a source of great concern to you. The West German arms industry is a very advanced arms industry, and we are definitely completely opposed to sales of West German arms to Saudi Arabia. We find it hard to conceive, and hard to believe, that after everything that has happened, and everything that must be forgiven and never forgotten, the West German Government would be ready at the

present time to sell advanced weaponry to a country that insists that it is in a state of war with Israel. [end recording]

Peres: Alignment Would Pull Out of Lebanon
TA102126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has said that if an Alignment government were established, it would pull the IDF out of Lebanon within a short period of time, and would unilaterally implement Israel's part of the agreement with Lebanon. In a speech before Labor Party activists in Jerusalem, Peres rejected the possibility of establishing a national unity government led by the Likud. Such a government is possible only if it is led by the Alignment, as befits the size of his faction. In any event, Peres believes that the days of the Likud government are numbered. As for Yitzhaq Navon, Shim'on Peres said that he is not a candidate for any post whatsoever in the party.

Referring to the state of the economy, the Labor Party chairman said that a package deal is inconceivable between the Histadrut and the Likud government, which prefers to channel funds that had been designated for social purposes to political targets. At the end of his speech, Mr Peres announced that Avraham Burg [the son of Minister Yosef Burg of the National Religious Party] would be joining the Labor Party.

RAKAH Official Receives Andropov Message
TA101127 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1050 GMT 10 Jan 84

["RAKAH Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 10 Jan (ITIM) — On the occasion of the new year, RAKAH Secretary General, MK Me'ir Wilner, received a personal message from Soviet Leader Yuriy Andropov bearing his own signature. The greetings say, among other things, that Andropov wishes RAKAH success in the struggle for peace, as well as best wishes for good health to MK Me'ir Wilner.

MK Me'ir Wilner received similar messages from Romanian Leader Nicolae Ceausescu, Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov, GDR leader Erich Honecker, and the SRV's Le Duan.

Briefs

Decrease in Exports — Israel's exports declined last year by 3 percent as compared to the previous year. The steepest decline, 12.5 percent, was recorded in metals and electronic products. This mirrors the decline in military exports. Industrial exports, excluding diamonds, declined by 6 percent, and the same decline was recorded in agricultural exports. [Text][Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 9 Jan 84 TA]

IDF Command Change — Changes have taken effect lately in the IDF's Ground Forces Command. Brigadier General Dani Vardi, who was deputy to Major General Dan Shomron, the commander of the Ground Forces Command, retired from this post after a short term of service. He left the IDF on leave without pay for a year or two, and left for Africa to manage a company there. [Text][Tel Aviv *DAVAR* in Hebrew 10 Jan 84 TA]

AFP: OAU Meeting on Chad Postponed Again

NC102136 Paris AFP in English 2109 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jan 10 (AFP) — A conference being held here to try to reconcile the warring factions in Chad was today postponed for the second day running.

A spokesman for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) under whose auspices the talks are being held said tonight that "consultations" would continue tomorrow to try to get the conference under way.

The conference had been due to open here yesterday.

Ethiopian Leader Receives Members of Chadian Factions

9 January Meetings

EA092113 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1900 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Provisional Administrative Council and COPWE chairman, commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and current OAU chairman, held talks with the two Chadian factions that had come to take part in the meeting aimed at solving the Chad problem through dialogue.

In a ceremony held at the National Palace, our revolutionary leader this morning and afternoon received and held talks with Chadian faction leader Mr Goukouni Oueddei, and the leader of the Chadian government delegation Mr Tahar Guinassou. Comrade Goshu Wolde, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member, was present while Comrade Chairman Mengistu received and held talks with the two Chadian factions.

10 January Meetings

EA102121 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1900 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, continuing his efforts to solve the Chadian problem peacefully, held talks this morning and this evening with Chadian Government delegates and two faction leaders.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Provisional Military Administrative Council and COPWE chairman, Commander in Chief of the revolutionary armed forces and current OAU chairman, this afternoon met and held lengthy talks with a Chadian government delegation, led by Tahar Guinassou, on ways to peacefully solve the Chadian problem.

Prior to this, our comrade revolutionary leader held talks with a Chadian faction delegation of (Kamouge Wadal Abd Al-Qadir) and (Asheg Ebn Umar).

Present during the talks were Comrade Goshu Wolde, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member; Dr Peter Onu, interim OAU secretary general; and OAU officials.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Messages From Abroad

UAE Envoy Brings Congratulations

LD081202 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 8 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, 8/1/84 (APS) — Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, envoy of Shaykh Zayid al-Nahyyan, head of state of the United Arab Emirates, arrived here last night with a message to President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, oil and mine resources minister, stated in a brief statement at the airport that the message relates to relations between the two countries and the congratulations of Shaykh Zayid al-Nahyyan to President Chadli Bendjedid for his reelection as secretary general of the FLN party.

Referring to the situation in the oil market, Mr al-'Utaybah said it was characterized by instability. Its future, he added,depends on the respect of OPEC member countries to their quota of production and to the price fixed.

Mr al-'Utaybah was greeted at the airport by his Algerian counterpart Belkacem Nabi.

Mauritanian Minister Brings Message

LD081147 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 8 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, 8/1/84 (APS) — Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi conferred yesterday with his Mauritanian counterpart Ahmed Ould Minnih.

The Mauritanian foreign minister also carried a message from President Ould Haydalla to President Chadli Bendjedid.

Foreign Minister Meets With U.S., UAE Envoys

Receives U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld

LD091315 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs, today received Donald Rumsfeld, special envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to the Middle East.

The conversation during this meeting dealt with the situation in the Middle East.

Meets With UAE Minister

LD091122 Algiers APS in English 1004 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Algiers, 9/1/84 (APS) -- Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, who arrived here on Saturday, conferred with Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi.

The two men examined the situation in the Middle East and concertation among OPEC members, as well as bilateral relations.

LIBYA

Army's Jallud Meets Arab Officials in Syria

LD101016 Tripoli JANA in English 0833 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus, Rab Thani 5, Jan 10, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major Ahmad 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud last night met here at his residence with Mr 'Issam Qansu [JANA spelling], secretary of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon; Mr 'In'am Ra'id, chairman of the Syrian National Social Party; Mr Ibrahim Murad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Union in Lebanon; and Mr Nadim 'Abd al-Samad, member of the Lebanese Communist Party's Politburo.

Upper Volta's Captain Zongo Visits Tripoli

LD091521 Tripoli JANA in English 1426 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 5, Jan 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Captain Henri Zongo, member of the National Revolutionary Council and member of the cabinet of Upper Volta, arrived last night in Tripoli on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, the chief of staff of the Armed Forces, met Captain Zongo at the international airport of Tripoli.

JANA Reports Fire on Tunisian-Algerian Pipeline

LD101023 Tripoli JANA in English 0918 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, Rabi Thani 6, Jan 10, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Tunisian minister of defence announced yesterday afternoon that a fire broke out early morning yesterday in the Algerian-Tunisian oil pipeline at a point inside Tunisian territory called Hanshir al-Bassasah. This pipeline connects the Algerian Ain Aminas [spelling of name as received] oil fields and Skhira point in the Gabes Gulf.

According to a statement by the Tunisian Ministry of Defence broadcast by Tunisian radio and distributed by the TUNIS AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY the fire was put out after it caused a halt in oil flow from Ain Aminas in Algeria.

MOROCCO

Habib Chatti Comments on Upcoming Islamic Summit

LD101938 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Rabat, 10 Jan (MAP) — Mr Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, has affirmed that the Casablanca summit, which will be held in the second half of this month, should be a summit of firm decisions and harmonious strategy.

In an exclusive interview with MAP, in which he analyzed the circumstances under which the fourth Islamic summit conference will be held in Morocco, Chatti pointed out that these circumstances are very complicated because of the present critical phase of the Palestinian issue, the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the foreign occupation of Afghanistan.

But the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization expressed his optimism that the leaders of the Islamic nation will face up to the situation and work toward overcoming the disputes.

Regarding the subjects the summit will discuss, the secretary general stated that the issue of Jerusalem and Palestine will be at the forefront of issues taken up, in addition to the various sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He said that the summit will listen to a number of reports submitted by leaders of severalIslamic countries, including His Majesty King Hassan II as the chairman of the Jerusalem committee, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz as the chairman of the previous summit, and President Ahmed Sekou Toure as the chairman of the Islamic Peace Committee.

Mr Chatti stated that the Casablanca summit will be an opportunity for reviving the international Islamic court and approving the document of human rights in Islam.

In reply to a question about the foreign minister of Iran's recent statement that his country will not attend the Islamic summit because of what he called the bias towards Iraq by the Islamic Conference Organization, Mr Habib Chatti said: "We have never been biased towards either Iraq or Iran. Because if we were biased,we would lose our mediatory status which demands complete neutrality."

King Pardons Prisoners for National Anniversary
LD102343 Rabat MAP in Arabic 2300 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The Moroccan people tomorrow will mark the 40th anniversary of the presentation of the document demanding independence, which occurred on 11 January 1944. On this occasion, the Ministry of Justice has issued the following statement:

His Majesty the King has issued his order on the occasion of the anniversary of the demand for independence, 11 January, of pardoning 50 prisoners; excusing four prisoners from serving their prison sentences but instead giving them fines; reducing the prison sentences of 97 prisoners; and changing the life sentence of one prisoner to a limited prison term.

May god save our master, and may He return the likes of such happy anniversaries for His Majesty.

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Returns From Oman Visit
JN081812 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 8 Jan 84

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jan (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak returned here this evening following a 4-day visit to Oman.

During the visit, Mubarak delivered a message to Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id from President Ja'far Numayri, and held talks with Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs on bilateral relations, the current situation in the Arab and international arenas, and other issues of common interest.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Orders Relaxation of Curfew
LD102219 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] By order of the great struggler, President Habib Bourguiba, president of the Tunisian republic, the ministries of interior and national defense announce that the curfew declared in accordance with Order No 7 of 1984, dated 3 January 1984, is reduced as of tomorrow, Wednesday, 11 January, in the following manner:

The movement of people and vehicles will be prohibited from 2200 to 0400.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Politburo Meets Under Abdelaziz
LD101120 Algiers APS in English 1013 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Hausa, 10/1/84 (APS) — The Polisario Politburo met under the chairmanship of its secretary general, Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Arab Sahraui Democratic Republic (SDAR). Participants proceeded to a deep analysis of the situation of the heroic Sahraui struggle on both internal and external fields.

The Politburo considers that for three years a new phase has commenced with the intervention of the USA at the side of Morocco and their multiform interference in the region, materialized by the signing of strategic accords between Hassan II and Alexander Haig, and the creation of Rabat-Washington joint military commissions; beside the multiplication of air reconnaissance operations by U.S. satellites and the supply of sophisticated armaments to perpetrate a veritable genocide of the Sahraui people. [punctuation as received] The Polisario Front drew the attention of the international community with the gravity of such a situation and expressed confidence in OAU actions for the defence of the Sahraui peoples' rights.

SOMALIA

Foreign Minister Leaves for Morocco Meeting

EA091529 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Summary] The foreign minister of the Somali Democratic Republic, Abdurahman Jama Barre, left Mogadishu yesterday for Morocco to attend the Islamic countries foreign ministers meeting.

Burundi Foreign Minister Arrives 10 January

EA102038 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Summary] Burundi Foreign Minister Laurent Nzeyimana arrived in Mogadishu today for an official visit of several days to the Somali Democratic Republic.

Noting that friendly relations exist between the Somali Democratic Republic and Burundi, the minister said he hoped his talks with the Somali Government, especially with the Foreign Ministry, would enhance these relations.

TANZANIA

Nyerere 'Disappointed' Over U.S. Interference in Namibia

EA102025 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpts] In Dar es Salaam President Nyerere has expressed his disappointment over American and South African attempts to halt international efforts to bring about Namibian independence. He said that the oppressive Boer regime, with the support of America, continues to link the issue of Namibian independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops in Angola.

Speaking at a New Year party he hosted for foreign diplomats in the country at State House in Dar es Salaam today, President Nyerere said that Tanzania continues to urge nations in the world to force South Africa to change its policy and to restrain that country from continuing to threaten world peace.

The mwalimu said the failure to utilize the United Nations as an organ of solving international disputes has also led to a continued threat to world peace, especially due to the superpowers constant intervention in the internal affairs of small independent countries, such as in Afghanistan, Kampuchea, Grenada and in Central America.

UGANDA

President Receives U.S. Congressmen 10 January

EA102056 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Summary] The American congressmen currently visiting Uganda have commended President Obote and the government for maintaining democratic institutions. Mr W.E. Dannemeyer from California and Mr Tony P. Hall from Ohio, were received by President Obote this afternoon. The president told the visitors that the government is totally committed to the democratic system of government. He described human rights as the pillar upon which Uganda was being rebuilt.

In the economic field, the president told the congressmen that since coming to office in 1980 the government has reduced inflation from 130 percent to under 30 percent by the end of 1983.

Dr Obote told the Americans that what Uganda wanted from the United States was understanding for the efforts of the government and people of Uganda to rise up from the state of misery and degradation. He said that his government would welcome more such visits by congressmen.

CHAD

Foul Play Seen Possible in Miskine Demise

AB102125 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The surprising death of Idriss Miskine, barely 48 hours before the opening of the Addis Ababa talks, has certainly puzzled Chadian political circles. The official statement issued in Ndjamena said the the vice president of the FAN died of acute malaria. However, the fact that the death of the FAN's second in command came on the eve of the roundtable on national reconciliation has led to some question marks. Let us go back a little bit to better understand the far-reaching effect of this event.

In the aftermath of the recapture of Faya-Largeau by the national liberation army [ANL], did not the FAN boss accuse the close aides of Francois Mitterrand of creating a division within his so-called government? Since then, everyone knew that something was wrong between Hissein Habre and his right-hand man. Besides the cooperation between the two men, a secret quarrel was brewing in regard to the path to adopt to overcome the political and military impasse. As was stressed in the statement by the Presidency of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], Idriss Miskine was a supporter of a peaceful solution to the Chadian conflict and did not hide his feelings about any rapprochement with Americans, Zionists, and South Africans.

Hissein Habre is, on the contrary, a pro-American and pro-South African militarist. In view of the sharp political differences between the two FAN officials, Idriss Miskine later withdrew to (Dhera), his contituency. He only surfaced again during the Vittel French-African summit. Can we then conclude that there was a strange power struggle between the two main officials of the FAN? This is quite possible, because no autopsy was carried out to determine the exact nature of this acute malaria. In the absence of this, how can one help thinking, for example, that his doctor helped him to die. Such an assumption cannot be excluded when one thinks of the physical constitution of Idriss Miskine, and especially when one remembers the statement he made on the eve of his death. Was he then killed in a cowardly fashion for overshadowing his first in command? This is not impossible if one refers to the methods ususally resorted to by the leader of the FAN to deal with refractory elements and nonconformists, even if they are his (?closest) companions.

Can we speak of disguised political assassination? Whatever the case, several Chadians deeply doubt the truth in the version presented by the Ndjamena fascists. Can the vacuum left behind by the second in command of the FAN have, unfortunately, some effects on the current peace process to which he so much devoted his life? Here, one cannot but share the deep concern of the GUNT in the face of this death which, to use the words used by the president of the GUNT, may have regrettable consequences on the current Addis Ababa peace conference for all the factions.

RWANDA

Habyarimana Presents New Government Program

EA092145 Kigali Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Speech by head of state Major General Juvenal Habyarimana presenting the new government program following Habyarimana's reelection; speech given on 8 January in "national language"; location not specified — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] MRND [National Revolutionary Development Movement] militants, the fourth ordinary congress of the MRND decided to reelect me to head our movement and as a presidential candidate according to our constitution.

I wish to present to you the program which my government with the help of each Rwandan will try to implement in the interests of every Rwandan. The world economic crisis and its impact on our country's economy and its problems impel me to regard the new government's program in the context of austerity and dialogue. I say austerity, because we cannot afford to live beyond our means — means which are limited. Accordingly, our resources must be managed with care and efficiency by eliminating waste wherever possible, avoiding duplication of effort and sacking such incompetents as may remain in the public services and parastatals.

By austerity, I also mean that people must discharge their responsibilities at all levels in conformity with directives issued, by constantly promoting the common good, by not ignoring their responsibilities, by not misinterpreting directives, and by not failing to attend administrative council meetings. And by austerity, I also mean honesty in management.

Dialogue must always go hand in hand with austerity. In the past, and despite my repeated exhortations, some authorities have failed to realize the extent to which the success of their efforts depends on dialogue with those who also have something to say in decision-making processes.

The credibility attained by the Rwandan people must not be affected. Each one of us must understand that his mission is to work for the common good, and it is important that our objectives be clearly defined, that our means be clearly identified, and that the activities of enterprises be clear enough to be checked. It is more important than ever before that our means be geared to our objectives. We must ensure that the government's budget reflects the true priorities of the government's policy.

After his speech, the head of state presented his new government, which is characterized by the regrouping of some ministries. The new team is made up of 17 (seventeen) ministers as compared to 19 (nineteen) in the previous one.

Only five ministers left the government: those of agriculture and livestock, natural resources, justice, health, and social affairs and community development. Three new ministers have been nominated. They are: Dr Francois Muganzo as the new minister of public health and social affairs; Anastase Nteziryayo, who

takes up the portfolio of agriculture, livestock, and forests; and Jean Marie Vianney Mugemana, the new minister of justice.

Here is the complete list of the new cabinet:

Minister of:	
National Defense	Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the republic
Office of the President	Simeon Nteziryayo
Institutional Relations	Edouard Karemera
Interior and Community Development	Thomas Habanabakize
Justice	Jean-Marie Vianney Mugemana
Civil Service & Vocational Training	Francois Habiyakare
Finance and Economy	Jean-Damascene Hategekimana
Industry, Mines & Crafts	Mathieu Ngirira
Agriculture, Livestock and Forests	Anastase Ntezilyayo
Planning	Ambroise Mulindangabo
Public Works and Energy	Joseph Nzirorera
Transport & Communications	Andre Ntagerura
Primary & Secondary Education	Aloys Nekalije
Higher Education & Scientific Research	Charles Nyandwi
Youth & Cooperative Movement	Augustin Ndindiliyimana
Foreign Affairs & Cooperation	Francois Ngarukiyintwali
Public Health and Social Affairs	Francois Muganza

MRND militants, the Ministry of Finance and Economy will coordinate all matters relating to financial policy; that is, budget, trade and loans. These three areas constitute an organic entity. This ministry will from now on be responsible for harmonizing our economic policies, which will thus better reflect the philosophy of our liberal plans. That is to say, the government encourages free enterprise and the development of private initiatives in a favorable framework compatible with Rwanda's national interests. It will also be responsible for the effective management of the economy and the money supply, as well as for the stability of the economy — an essential condition for true self-reliance. The priority of the department will be to achieve a balanced budget as directed by the Constitution.

The participation of the state in various economic and social areas over the last 4 years has resulted in a significant increase in public expenditures, which has exceeded our income during the period. The world economic crisis has also worsened the state of public funds in terms of foreign exchange. Facing such a situation, the government must adopt austerity measures aimed at reestablishing the balance necessary for good economic management, as laid down in the constitution.

First of all, it means that the government must adopt an austerity policy aimed at cutting expenditures and avoiding waste. To this end, all departments are called upon scrupulously to respect regulations relating to public funds and also the various rules of the Ministry of Finance and Economy in terms of budget management. It is therefore reaffirmed that no expenditures may be embarked upon without the prior authorization of the general inspector of finance. Financially independent organizations must also respect the budget adopted by the higher authorities.

While drafting and adopting budget, the higher authorities must cut down on some items. It is to be noted that expenditures on personnel represents almost two-thirds of the ordinary budget. In order to contain this situation, new appointments must be restricted and the inefficient sacked. The state of our public funds also obliges us to reduce expenditures on equipment and transport. Those in charge in those sectors must ensure that maintenance and fuel expenses do not exceed allocations.

The Ministry of Industry, Mines and Crafts will control everything connected with local industry in Rwanda, that is, agriculture, mining, crafts, and all industrial projects. This grouping will help in introducing the necessary coherence in order to harmonize our efforts in industrialization areas, eliminate duplicated efforts and work out methods relevant to the needs and aspirations of our country.

Militants, the government's first priority will be food. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Forests will be priority responsible for matters relating to the food strategy. That is food self-sufficiency for the people of Rwanda.

BENIN

Egypt's Butrus Ghali Arrives, Meets With Adjibade

AB102155 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The head of the Egyptian diplomatic service continues his visit to Benin. Butrus Ghali, who arrived this morning in our country, was welcomed by central authorities of the party and of the revolutionary state. He held his first round of talks with his Beninese counterpart, Comrade Tiamious Adjibade. Mr Ghali explains the reasons for his visit to Benin:

[Begin recording] I would first of all like to tell you how happy I am to be in Cotonou now. I was asked by the president of the Republic of Egypt, Husni Mubarak, to come and deliver a friendly message of solidarity to General Mathieu Kerekou, president of the Republic of Benin. I have already had the opportunity this morning to have a friendly and amicable discussion with my friend and brother the minister of foreign affairs of Benin, and I hope this official visit will help strengthen the very important relations between Cotonou and Cairo. [end recording]

In an interview the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs discussed the situation prevailing in the Middle East, a situation characterized by the departure of the Palestinians and of the head of the PLO from Tripoli in Lebanon.

[Begin Ghali recording] As you know, Egypt is extremely preoccupied by what is happening in the Middle East — the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the military occupation of Palestinian territory of the West Bank and the Gaza. We have had the occasion to receive in Cairo the chairman of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, with whom we held extremely positive and fruitful discussions. I have just returned from Paris where I had the opportunity to deliver a message to French President Francois Mitterrand. I also had discussions with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson. The aim of this meeting was to discuss the Middle East problem, the Middle East crisis, and the type of aid that can be given to our Palestinian brothers so that they can exercise their right to self-determination. [end recording]

Touching on the burning issues on the African Continent, especially on the Western Sahara, the head of the Egyptian diplomatic service expressed the concern of his country on this problem:

[Begin Ghali recording] We are very much concerned about this issue because it nearly dismantled our organization. I have been following closely this issue since the Khartoum summit of 1978. Since then I have been attending all the African summits at the ministerial level, both at the ordinary and extraordinary sessions. We have been following closely the Western Sahara issue. We appeal to the conflicting parties to this serious problem to find a solution, either through a referendum or through new negotiations or through direct contacts; either through the framework of the United Nations or through the OAU. What is important to us is that the Western Saharan problem should not divide Africa into two opposing groups of pro-Saharans and anti-Saharans within the OAU. We must save the OAU; we must maintain this organization because this organization is not only the framework of our common action but it symbolizes African solidarity, it symbolizes African unity; and your government, like our government, is very much attached to this African solidarity, to this African unity. If Africa is divided, it will undergo the effects of colonialism and neocolonialism. On the other hand, if Africa is able to become united and strengthen its solidarity and have a common front, we will not only be able to liberate our continent, but also we would be able to engage in a dialogue of equals between the North and South; we would be able to develop an African economy; we would be able to prepare ourselves for this African common market as was adopted at the Lagos summit. [end recording]

GHANA

Congo's Sassou-Nguesso Announces Drought Relief Aid

AB102110 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, has received a message from the Congolese leader, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, expressing deep concern over the persistent drought and the attendant problems it has created for Ghana. Col Sassou-Nguesso said the national disaster has been a concern to his government and people, and expressed sympathy to the PNDC and people of Ghana in this critical moment.

In a true spirit of African solidarity and as a concrete manifestation of the bonds of friendship uniting the two countries, Col Sassou-Nguesso announced a grant of 100 million CFA francs to Ghana. He described the grant as a symbolic gesture of profound feelings of friendship which the Congolese people have always demonstrated for their Ghanaian brothers and sisters.

Officials Dismissed After 'Malpractices' Inquiry

AB102100 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Kofi Ashiboe-Mensah has been dismissed from office as secretary in the office of the coordinating secretary with immediate effect. This follows a recommendation of the joint committee of secretaries after an investigation into the conduct of Mr Ashiboe-Mensah as a secretary.

Following a report of the subcommittee of secretaries which investigated alleged malpractices in the allocation of import licenses in the Ministry of Industries, Science, and Technology, Mr B.K. Armah has been dismissed from the civil service with immediate effect. The National Investigations Committee and the Office of the Special Prosecutor are to take further action on these cases.

Meanwhile, Mr Ashiboe-Mensah and B.K. Armah have been placed in police custody. Messrs Akumey, Bortei, and Adu-Danso — all of the Ministry of Industries, Science, and Technology — have been indicted and are to appear before the National Investigations Committee. Anthony Kwoffie, former deputy sec-

retary of the Western Region, has also been placed in custody for diverting relief items meant for the Western Region. A police message has been published declaring Mr Addai-Sibor as a wanted man.

GUINEA

Liberia's Doe Arrives, Meets With Toure

AB101510 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Liberian head of state President Samuel Kanyon Doe this morning arrived in Conakry for a short friendship visit to our country. He was welcomed at Conakry-Gbessia International Airport by the supreme leader of the revolution, President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

From the international airport of Conakry the two heads of state went to the People's Palace where they had their first round of talks.

Departs Following 'Friendly Visit'

AB101830 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Liberian head of state, President Samuel Kanyon Doe, left Conakry this afternoon after a brief friendly visit to our country.

Toure Meets With Haiti's Chanoine 9 Jan

AB101500 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The militant people of Guinea received at 1730 yesterday Jean-Marie Chanoine, the prime minister of the Republic of Haiti [title as heard]. The Haitian prime minister, who is on his first visit to our country, was received at the airport by President Ahmed Sekou Toure, secretary general of the party-state and supreme leader of the revolution. In his speech of welcome, the head of state stressed the historical and cultural similarities between the Haitian and Guinean peoples and praised their common struggle for the rehabilitation of the black man as well as the cooperation between the developing countries in Africa and Latin America.

In his reply, Jean-Marie Chanoine said:

[Begin recording] The historic "no" uttered by the Guinean people in September 1958 [reference to Guinea's rejection of membership in the proposed French Community during the September 1958 referendum in the former French colonies] demonstrated the black man's desire for freedom, a desire which had been resoundingly affirmed by the Haitian revolt of 14 August 1791 and the successive glorious struggles that marked the Haitian people's historic march toward independence proclaimed on 1 January 1804. [applause] [end recording]

Malagasy 'Campaign' To Thwart OAU Summit Denounced

AB101810 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Government statement issued in Conakry 10 January 1984]

[Text] Persistent reports reaching us from several reliable African sources show the sly, insidious, dilatory, and pernicious campaign that the Malagasy Government is reportedly carrying out with a view to compromise the holding of the 20th session of the summit conference of heads of state of the OAU in Conakry. Consequently, the Guinean Government wishes to bring this information to the attention of all the African heads of state, all African governments, and all African people who are the only ones who will be able to answer, at the appropriate time and with the required efficiency, to the agents of division who would thus act as enemies of the unity and the progress of our African Continent. As for the Guinean Government, it is convinced that the heads of state and government will honor the unanimous decision they made during the 19th session of the summit conference of heads of state and government in Addis Ababa to be present at the Conakry meeting. Ready for the revolution.

LIBERIA

Doe Returns; Toure Comments on Mercenaries

AB102205 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The head of state, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, and his 19-member official delegation today returned home after a 1-day official working visit to the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea. While in Guinea, Dr Doe held talks with President Ahmed Sekou Toure on bilateral, African, and world issues. Dr Doe described Guinea as a traditional friend of Liberia and promised to work toward further strengthening the cooperation between the two countries. He expressed deep sorrow to the Guinean Government and members of the bereaved families for the destruction of life and property resulting from the recent earthquake.

Guinean President Sekou Toure stressed the need for unity and cooperation among African leaders in their strive for development. He said it was time that Africa stopped engaging in acts that would undermine other governments and join hands in bringing social, economic, and infrastructural development to their peoples. He informed head of state Doe about recent attempts by a group of mercenaries to overthrow the Guinean Government, adding, "we have unearthed the plan, and are seriously on the alert for them."

Three Coup Accusees To Testify as State Witnesses

AB101840 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The prosecution in the alleged coup plot trial has asked three of the accused to testify as state witnesses against the 16

others. The request was made yesterday at the special military tribunal in Monrovia.

According to the chairman of the tribunal, Major General Alfred Gayflor, the request was granted after the prosecution entered a *nolle prosequi* in favor of the three. The three, who have now become state witnesses, are Private Paul Toweh, Mohamed Wimpy, and Joseph Cooper. They will be among 16 other prosecution witnesses.

According to the *DAILY OBSERVER*, Maj Gen Gayflor said that the other accused yesterday pleaded not guilty to high treason, sedition, murder, and conspiracy. He further disclosed that the accused may be divided into two groups: group one will include those connected with the Yekipa raid, while the second group will involve those connected with the staging of the coup in Monrovia.

NIGERIA

Buhari, SMC Members Visit Jos, Kaduna 10 Jan

AB101131 Lagos NAN in English 1115 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 10 (NAN) — The head of state, Maj Gen Mohammadu Buhari, left Lagos this morning on a one-day official visit to Jos and Kaduna state.

Dodan Barracks sources said that the head of state would address officers of the 1st Mechanised Division, Kaduna, and the 3d Armoured Division, Jos, during his visit. This is his first official engagement outside Lagos since the military took over power on Dec. 31.

He is being accompanied by some members of the Supreme Military Council and top military officers. Maj-Gen Buhari is expected back in Lagos later today.

About 1,000 Former Office-Holders Report to Police

AB111040 Lagos NAN in English 0815 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Benin, Jan 10 (NAN) — About 1000 former political office holders in Bendel between Jan 1, 1979 and December 31, 1983 today reported to the state's police headquarters in compliance with an instruction issued yesterday evening by the state's police command.

A NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent who was at the state's police headquarters this morning said that the ex-politicians started arriving as early as 8 a.m.

The correspondent further reports that most of the former politicians were seen standing in groups, discussing and exchanging greetings with their erstwhile contemporaries in the opposing political parties, putting aside their previous political differences for the first time.

Soldiers, Police Raid Minna Market, Stores

AB111041 Lagos NAN in English 0818 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Minna, Jan 10 (NAN) — Combined teams of soldiers and policemen in Minna today raided the Minna main market and some stores in various parts of the town in an effort to force down prices of commodities.

A NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent reports that a total of about fifteen major stores were forced open and commodities sold to the public at controlled prices. NAN gathered that the law enforcement agents used informants in locating the stores where these goods were stored.

At the market, NAN discovered that a big packet of sugar was sold at 50k instead of the pre-coup price of 1 naira 50k, while large in size Omo detergent which used to sell at 10 naira now sold for 3 naira. A bag of Semovita was sold at 5 naira instead of former price of 10 naira. Many buyers thronged the market and stores (?scampering) for various items.

A Government House source told NAN that the operation was ordered by the state Military Governor Lt Col David Mark.

Bauchi Governor Warns Against Abuse of Office

AB101231 Lagos NAN in English 1005 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Bauchi, Jan 9 (NAN) — The military governor of Bauchi, Brig. Mohammed Sani Sami, said today that the military administration in the state "will not tolerate any abuse of office or misuse of government property by civil servants."

Addressing the permanent secretaries and heads of non-ministerial departments at Government House, the governor said that the administration would not condone any form of indiscipline and warned that lateness to duty and malingering would be viewed seriously.

He urged the permanent secretaries to take proper control of their various departments and ensure that all expenditures incurred were justified.

Brig. Sami said that he expected the permanent secretaries to give professional, honest and useful advice to the government in the interest of the general public regardless of what their personal opinion of the military regime were. He urged them to cooperate fully with commissioners whenever they were appointed.

He called for consultation between his office and accounting officers of all government departments and urged them to live exemplary lives for their subordinates and other members of the society to follow.

Sokoto Permanent Secretaries To Be 'Redeployed'

AB101650 Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Sokoto, Jan. 9 (NAN) — The military governor of Sokoto, Brig. Barba Duba, said in Sokoto today that some permanent secretaries would be redeployed to conform with Federal Mili-

tary Government's directives to scale down the ministries from 13 to nine. He told permanent secretaries and heads of departments at a meeting that no sacrifice was too much "if you find yourselves redeployed."

Brig. Duba said, "Anyone of you who cannot make such a sacrifice required by this administration can leave the service immediately". The military governor warned that the new administration would not condone indolence, absenteeism, inefficiency or abuse of office from any public servant "no matter how highly placed he or she might be".

Replying, the head of service, Alhaji Muhammadu Jega, gave the assurance that the permanent secretaries would do their best to ensure the effective implementation of the military government's programmes.

Kwara Former Minister, Party Member Declared Wanted

AB101244 Lagos NAN in English 1011 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Ilorin, Jan 9 (NAN) — The Kwara police command today in Ilorin declared a former minister of steel development, Malam Ali Makele and Alhaji (?Yahayzuxas) Idris, a former member of the banned NPN [National Party of Nigeria], in the state wanted.

The police public relations officer, Mr Kunle Oladimeji, told newsmen that about 135 former political office holders had reported to the police.

He said that those who had reported included ex-Senator Olusola Saraki, former Governor Adamu Atta, ex-minister of industries, Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi, and the former minister for Abuja, Alhaji Haliru Dantoro.

Others are, a former commissioner of health in governor [words indistinct], Dr John Lawani and a former speaker of the state's [words indistinct] Mustapha.

Coup Seen Necessary To Reverse 'Rape of Democracy'

AB102045 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] There should be no doubt whatsoever now that the reemergence of the military on Nigeria's political scene is welcome to the majority of Nigerians as a big relief. The civilian government of the last 4 years in the country had made nonsense of the democratic system and process. Its members deliberately breached the Constitution with reckless disregard for consequences. The politicians generally subjected the country to (?senseless) chaos and instability with their cutthroat electoral rivalry. In fact, they had become a nuisance to the country. Life became increasingly intolerable as the citizens gradually began to lose their basic rights through coercion by agents of the administration. Allocation of import licenses and the award of government contracts were influenced by party affiliations. The checks and balances provided in the nation's Constitution for good government were disregarded and subverted; and rather than (?face up) to the numerous problems afflicting the country, the ousted leadership in those days employed rhetorics to confuse the already weary and alienated citizenry.

But the situation reached intolerable (?levels) during and after the general elections held last year. The majority of Nigerians, disgusted with the purposeless administration, yearned for a change and tried to effect that change with the power of their franchise. But the will of the people was blatantly flouted through massive rigging, fraud, and thuggery. Even when electoral petitions were brought before the law courts, some shameless politicians attempted to influence and intimidate the judges, thereby undermining the (?confidence) of the ordinary citizen in the judiciary as well [words indistinct]. The subversion of the people's electoral verdict was carried out inspite of the constant reminders by the press and other well-meaning citizens of the observation that the late American President John F. Kennedy made that, quote, Those who make peaceful change impossible make violent change inevitable, unquote. How true these words came to be in the Nigerian context.

The new head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, noted when he met the diplomatic corps in Nigeria last week, and we quote: The shameless rigging and widespread perversion of the electoral process could not in all honesty be said to have produced a government of the people by the people. What we had was a government imposed on the people by the scandalous use of a mixture of political thuggery and widespread bribery. In the circumstances, the country was not only heading towards an economic collapse but also towards political chaos, unquote. And it was to avert this total political chaos which was bound to result from the mindless rape of democracy by the politicians that the military had to intervene.

TOGO

Arms Destined for Ghanaian Dissidents Intercepted

AB111128 Lagos NAN in English 1122 GMT 11 Jan 84

[By Samuel Ajibola]

[Text] Abidjan, Jan 11 (NAN) — A shipload of arms meant for Ghanaian dissidents in Togo has been turned back by the authorities in Lome [words indistinct] *VOICE* reported in its week-end issue quoting informed sources. According to the Abidjan correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN), the newspaper claimed that the Togolese authorities had also embarked on a clamp-down on Ghanaian dissidents living in that country. The paper stated that the Togolese military police had been put on the alert to pick up any group of two or more Ghanaians suspected to be holding clandestine meetings in any part of Togo. Last year, Ghana accused Togo of harbouring fugitives who allegedly used Lome as a base to launch an abortive coup last June, a charge the Togolese authorities denied. Dozens of Ghanaians who fled the country following the Dec. 31, 1981 coup which installed Flt-Lt Jerry Rawlings are known to be living in Lome and Abidjan.

SADCC Industrial Project Workshop Opens in Harare

MB101404 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] A 2-day industrial project implementation workshop of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, has begun in Harare. The workshop was officially opened by the Tanzanian minister of industries, Comrade Basil Mramba, whose country is in charge of the SADCC industry program. Comrade Mramba said of the 88 industrial projects identified at the Maseru ministerial meeting last year, 55 have been recommended for implementation. He said 18 projects have received funding commitments of 240 million dollars; another 18 are being negotiated, while the rest still need commitment.

Comrade Mramba said the emphasis has been on the development of the industrial subsectors, namely salt, textiles, wool, textile chemicals, insecticides, tractors, fertilizer, pulp and paper, and electrical transmission equipment. He noted that projects identified last year require 1,241 million dollars in foreign investment. The workshop, being attended by representatives of the local private sector and SADCC member countries, will review the implementation of projects identified at the Maseru conference. The delegates will also prepare the groundwork for an annual Council of Ministers meeting and donors' conference to be held in Lusaka, Zambia, next month.

Lack of Funds Bemoaned

MB110847 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The executive secretary of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, Comrade Authur Blumeris, says lack of funds in certain countries is hindering activities aimed at countering propaganda to which member states are subjected. Addressing a 2-day SADCC industrial conference which opened in Harare yesterday, Comrade Blumeris said that most programs are, however, aimed at countering continued destabilization in the region.

He noted that in spite of the world recession, there is internal market development in agriculture and the consumer industry sector [words indistinct]. Comrade Blumeris said the main focus of the forthcoming Lusaka conference will be on the agricultural sector.

Addressing the same meeting, the Indian high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr (Bwar Garwal), expressed his government's willingness to share its industrial technology with SADCC countries. He said one area in which India could help is the development of commerce and industry. The same view was shared by Mr (Norfolk), who represented the Australian companies at the workshop, and Mr (Gathley), a representative of commercial banks in Zimbabwe, who is also the general manager of the Bank of Credit and Commerce. Mr (Norfolk) said Australian companies would have an interest in (?salt) production projects. Mr (Gathley) said the banking sector in Zimbabwe is interested in participating in banking under the (?feasible) projects.

ANGOLA

RSA Accused of Dropping 'Poison Gas Bombs'

AB101520 Paris AFP in English 0915 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Luanda, Jan 10 (AFP) — South African aircraft dropped poison gas bombs, causing a number of casualties among Angolan troops, in last week's large-scale battle in southern Angola, the Angolan Defence Ministry charged here Monday.

In a communique quoted by the national news agency ANGOP, the Defence Ministry said that the number of dead and wounded from the gas had not yet been determined. The communique denied South African assertions that its troops had been attacked by Angolan, Cuban and Namibian nationalist Southwest Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) forces.

The South Africans were the aggressors, using a large number of tanks, more than 30 aircraft and helicopters in attacks against positions of the Angolan Army's 11th Infantry Brigade, the communique said.

The South African forces had suffered heavy casualties and lost seven tanks and other armoured vehicles, three aeroplanes and a helicopter, in the action around Cuvelai, more than 200 kilometres (120 miles) inside Angola, it added.

(South African General Ian Gleeson said three days ago that in a three-day battle round Cuvelai seven South Africans had died against 324 Angolan and SWAPO troops killed. The Angolans and Cubans had been told by Soviet advisers in Luanda to prevent the South Africans from destroying a SWAPO headquarters, he asserted.)

The Defence Ministry here also said that 20 South African planes had recently attacked Caiundo, in Cuando-Cubango Province, killing four Angolan troops and wounding six, and causing an undetermined number of casualties among the civilian population.

(Pretoria has said its forces were now withdrawing, after successfully preventing a planned SWAPO offensive into South African-ruled Namibia.)

Dos Santos Receives Zambian, Algerian Envoys

MB101434 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] At Futungo de Belas in Luanda this morning, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, received separately the ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Zambia and Algeria accredited in Luanda. (Djemal Haddin Yallah), the Algerian ambassador, and [name indistinct], the Zambian ambassador, were bearing messages from their respective heads of state. In the messages, Kenneth Kaunda, the Zambian head of state, and Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria expressed their solidarity with the Angolan people and strongly condemned the aggression mounted by South Africa against our free and sovereign territory.

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Optimistic Over Upcoming Talks With RSA

MB101759 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Government delegations from Mozambique and South Africa will meet simultaneously in Maputo and Pretoria on Monday. These talks were decided during the last meeting between the two countries in Swaziland on 20 December 1983.

A Mozambique Government source told AIM today that the talks to be held on Monday come within the framework of the implementation of the policy of peace and cooperation of our government. The source added that the talks may represent an important stage in the reduction of tensions in southern Africa. The talks will follow the same line of principles and objectives which President Samora Machel announced in Bissau and reaffirmed during his New Year's message to the diplomatic corps in Maputo, the source said.

On 20 December 1983, the Mozambique leader said in Bissau that the talks which were being held then between Mozambique and South Africa in Swaziland were based on specific conditions set by Mozambique. Samora Machel said on the occasion that Mozambique would neither recognize apartheid nor bantustans, and it would not stop its political, diplomatic, and moral support for the ANC. The Mozambique leader also reiterated the need for South Africa to stop destabilizing Mozambique with armed gangs. Neither side should launch attacks, Samora Machel said in Bissau.

At the talks set for next Monday there will be four delegations from each country to discuss security issues, economic relations, Cahora Bassa and tourism. The talks on tourism will begin in Maputo on 13 January 1984. The government source contacted by AIM did not refer to the members of the Mozambican delegations.

Machel Salutes ANC Anniversary, Affirms Support

MB110836 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has said that with the elimination of apartheid, the cause of the destabilization facing us will disappear and the peoples in our region will know an atmosphere of peace and fraternal cooperation.

The Frelimo Party and the Mozambican people will continue as in the past to express their political, moral, and diplomatic solidarity with the South African people and its combat vanguard, the ANC, with the conviction that democracy and peace will be victorious in the Republic of South Africa.

This position is expressed in a message that Marshal Samora Machel, president of the Frelimo Party, sent to Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC, on the occasion of the 72th anniversary of the founding of the combat vanguard of the South African people for democracy, social justice, and peace. The supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution says in the message that during these 7 decades of unselfish and heroic struggle, the South African people, led by the ANC, have won great victories and have attracted world sympathy and solidarity for the justness of their struggle. The South African people are a peaceful people that love peace and fraternity among men. All of mankind is sympathetic to these high ideals which fortify the South African people, said President Samora Machel, in the message.

Action Taken Against 'Bandits' in Inhambane

MB101950 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] The residents of Leonzuane in Massinga District, Inhambane, recently captured 11 armed bandits. A military source quoted by our regional team in that province said that 20 weapons and 43 antivehicle mines were also seized from the armed bandits by the residents of Leonzuane, who have been involved in action against small groups of those criminals in the area. Besides the capture of the bandits and their military equipment, the residents of Leonzuane also recovered their property which the bandits had stolen from the village communes. Accordingly, beds, saws and motorcycles were recovered, among other things. The residents of Leonzuane in Massinga are currently engaged in rebuilding roads and village communes which had been destroyed by the armed bandits. Two of the villages have already been completely rebuilt.

In (?Chitine), Morrumbene District, also in Inhambane, the residents have captured nine armed bandits so far, thus carrying out our warning of the elimination of those malefactors.

Other information received from Inhambane reveals that Major General Domingos Fondo, the province's military commander, held a meeting with the residents of Zandamela and Chidenguele. He spoke about the need to strengthen national unity and combine the efforts of the party and state local bodies in the fight against famine and for the physical elimination of the armed bandits. Last Saturday, Maj Gen Domingos Fondo presided over another mass rally at the Inhambane District headquarters, which concentrated the mobilization of the people for a greater involvement in the fight against armed bandits. In this regard, he urged the people to heighten their vigilance by coordinating their actions against the bandits with the armed forces. Maj Gen Domingos Fondo praised the people of (Janguene) in particular for punishing the armed bandits and for their involvement in the destruction of quizumba bases in (Malauissa), (Mariel) and (Panguene), in Cumbana, (Ligoqo) and (Massavana), respectively.

Envoy Presents Credentials to Reagan, Hails Ties

MB111149 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Valeriano Ferrao, Mozambique's ambassador-designate to the United States, has asked the U.S. Government to act with determination to find peace in southern Africa. On the occasion of the presentation of his credentials to President Ronald Reagan the day before yesterday, Ambassador Valeriano Ferrao condemned the violent repression by the apartheid regime against

the South African black majority, as well as Pretoria's acts of aggression against the neighboring countries. He said that all governments of the world must demand the immediate and total elimination of apartheid.

Meanwhile, U.S. President Ronald Reagan described apartheid as a morally condemnable and politically unacceptable system. Speaking during the ceremony in which he received the credentials of the Mozambiquan ambassador in Washington, President Reagan said that his country will continue to give support to peace efforts in southern Africa.

At the same ceremony, Ambassador Valeriano Ferrao hailed the recent improvement in the bilateral relations between Mozambique and the United States.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Accepts RSA Offer for Talks with Van Niekerk

MB110716 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] SWAPO will have direct cease-fire talks with Namibian representatives. Foreign Minister Pik Botha recently offered peace talks between the administrator-general of Namibia, Willie van Niekerk, and SWAPO. A statement from SWAPO headquarters in Luanda says they hope Botha's offer is genuine. Pretoria has so far refused to talk to SWAPO directly. SWAPO has emphasized the talks must not be linked to the Cuban presence in Angola. This is almost certainly going to be a stumbling block in the talks.

A SWAPO spokesperson in London has declined to predict when the talks can take place. The Luanda statement has repeated claims that no SWAPO guerrillas were killed in the 1-month South African incursion into Angola.

But the chances of a truce in the Angolan conflict have been rated slim as peace talks under the auspices of the United Nations continue. United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar delivered a report to the Security Council last night. He's been in contact with South Africa's chief United Nations delegate Kurt von Schirnding. It was their first meeting since the Security Council called for South Africa to withdraw unconditionally from Angola.

A senior UN official says there's little optimism that a 30-day disengagement of forces as proposed by South Africa will go into effect at the end of January.

RSA To Set Date

MB110932 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0907 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 11, SAPA — SWAPO has called on South Africa to immediately set a date for the commencement of direct talks for a ceasefire. In a statement obtained in Windhoek today, SWAPO said arrangements for the ceasefire had to be made through the office of the United Nations secretary-general, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar.

According to reports from the United Nations, Mr Perez de Cuellar is due to release a report today on progress made in implementing a UN Security Council resolution calling for an unconditional withdrawwal of South African forces from Angola.

In its statement, SWAPO of Namibia said South Africa had been saying since the weekend that it was ready to have direct talks with SWAPO, "something which Pretoria has consistently refused to do hitherto." The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said at the weekend that his government would not oppose direct truce negotiations between SWAPO and a delegation headed by the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

SWAPO said in its statement that it "hopes that Pretoria is now serious and that its announcement that the so-called administrator-general, the colonial governor in Namibia, will meet SWAPO for direct talks is genuine."

The statement expressed the hope that the proposed discussions would not be a repeat of the abortive January, 1981 all-party conference.

South Africa had turned the Geneva conference "into a public relations charade, by instigating its Namibian puppets to hurl insults and abuse at SWAPO, the UN and independent Africa," the statement said.

SWAPO would not interfere with the composition of the South African delegation to the proposed meeting, which the statement said should confine itself strictly to the issue of a ceasefire.

"The identity and responsibility of political organizations are provided for in UN Security Council Resolution 435 (on SWA/Namibia independence), to whose implementation the ceasefire must lead," SWAPO said.

The arena for the exchange of views among SWA/Namibia's political parties would be in the election campaign period specified in Resolution 435, SWAPO said.

"SWAPO hopes that no issues unrelated to the proposed ceasefire should be injected into the proposed talks to which SWAPO has agreed," the statement said.

"Ever conscious of its responsibility to the Namibian people and aware of the untold agony now affecting the Namibian nation under the yoke of apartheid oppression, SWAPO calls upon South Africa, through the UN secretary-general, to immediately set a definite date for the ceasefire talks."

The statement reiterated SWAPO's denial that its fighters had been involved in battles with the SA Defense Force in southern Angola over the past month. No members of SWAPO's armed forces were among those killed in the invasion, the organisation said.

"The claim by Pretoria that SWAPO, Cubans and Angolan forces are fighting together against the South African invasion force is calculated to give credence to the widely rejected linkage position of South Africa and the United States," SWAPO said.

The organisation was referring to United States and South Africa insistence that the implementation of the SWA/Namibian independence plan was conditional on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

SWAPO said that if South Africa could "succeed in convincing the world that SWAPO, Cuba and the Angolan Army are an integrated force, then the world should accept the linkage thesis of Pretoria and Washington."

Recent fighting in southern Angola had been strictly confined to the defending Angolan Army and the invading South African forces, SWAPO said.

SWAZILAND

Meeting of Rand Monetary Commission Scheduled

MB101031 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 10 Jan 84 pp 1,5

[By *OBSERVER* reporter]

[Text] Swaziland will host the Rand Monetary Area Commission's meeting on Monday next week. This was disclosed by Finance Principal Secretary Mr Ray Strydom yesterday.

The meeting, to be held in closed sessions, will be attended by members of the commission, which includes Swaziland, Lesotho, and South Africa.

Mr Strydom said the meeting is expected to be officially opened by the minister of finance, Dr Shishayi Nxumalo. No further details of the meeting were revealed.

ZIMBABWE

Canada Calls on RSA To Quit Angola, Namibia

MB110803 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The Canadian Government has called on the Pretoria regime to end its illegal occupation of southern Angolan and Namibia. In a statement released in Harare yesterday, the Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, Mr Allan MacEachen, said a South African withdrawal is the most effective way of strenthening peace and security in the region. He said his government has expressed great concern at the recent South African military operations in Angola.

Swedes Say West Must Not Help RSA Nuclear Aims

MB110903 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The head of a visiting Swedish parliamentary committee against apartheid, Mr Sverker Astrom, said Western nations should stop helping South Africa attain nuclear capability. Mr Astrom, who is leading a six-man delegation to Zimbabwe, said it is disturbing that some industrialized countries are helping the Pretoria regime attain sophisticated weapons which would help it in further destabilizing neighboring countiries. He said events [words indistinct] in December (?prove) South Africa's alignment with the reactionary UNITA bandits who want to topple the legitimate government of Angola.

Sweden has already passed a law prohibiting new investment by Swedish companies in South Africa. Yesterday, Mr Astrom met the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, who praised Sweden for taking the lead in imposing economic restrictions on the Pretoria regime.